



# **AFGHANISTAN REPORT**

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**NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 1989 &  
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**CRISIS & CONFLICT ANALYSIS TEAM  
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— Editor

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IJAZ S. GILANI  
FAZAL-UR-RAHMAN

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## NOTES

The quarterly Afghanistan Report is a carefully researched document for the benefit of scholars and policy makers. Its aim is to present an objective analysis of the Afghan resistance, the Soviet-Kabul military and psychological warfare, socio-political and economic developments.

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Primary sources for news report from Mujahideen include: Al-Bunyan News Service, the Afghan Information Centre, Afghan News, MIDIA despatches, and Agency Afghan Press files. Secondary sources are the International Media, and research papers and writings of the academicians. We are conscious of the paucity of correct, complete and timely information from closed societies, as also the lack of formal and trained command, control, communication and intelligence set-up among the Mujahideen.

Figures of casualties and material losses given in section 3 are in only those few cases where such inclusions were necessary for proper appreciation of the given events.

The reports received and reported are subject to the process of verification, whenever possible, which may include interviewing with those most directly informed on the events.

Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VOIR) is a Mujahideen Radio Station reportedly based in Mashad.

## PERIOD COVERED

Facts and figures given in this study are based on reports mostly received during October, November and December 1989.

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# AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT

NOVEMBER 1989

Even as they had done it in Qandahar in the previous month, Kabul regime forces continued efforts throughout October 1989 to clear the major roads of obstructions in Logar, Kabul, Parwan and Laghman provinces. Apparently, they were hard pressed to send relief to besieged garrisons in Gardez and Khost in Paktia province. The capital, Kabul, itself had to accumulate food and fuel, besides arms and ammunitions for the approaching winter season with accompanying rains, snow and landslides on the Hairatan-Pule Khumri-Charikar-Kabul route through the Salang Tunnels.

A large military convoy, comprising an estimated 700 vehicles, set out from Kabul on October 10 for Mohammad Agha township on the Kabul-Pule Alam sector of the road to Gardez. It had a powerful air cover of bombers, fighters and helicopters. In about 5 days, it was able to cover some 30 miles only, past Mohammad Agha in the flanks. There somewhere near the Logar provincial headquarters, Pule Alam, a major action was fought between the Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces. Mujahideen claimed they had worsted the enemy. Several hundred Kabul regime troops were killed and atleast 20 regime tanks, APCs and trucks destroyed. Apparently, the major part of the military convoy was extricated and pulled back towards Kabul.

Likewise, later on October 29, Kabul regime troops attacked Mujahideen positions between Charikar and Khinjan to break blockade of the Salang Highway. Meanwhile, Kabul had remained cut off from the north for over 7 days and there were reports of acute food and fuel shortages in the capital. Western news agencies quoted Najibullah administration sources as saying that more than 1,500 trucks carrying much needed supplies were held up on the Highway. Another 18,000 tons of petrol and oil were stranded at Hairatan river port on the Oxus

conditions in these cities safe enough for continued residence.

### **Regional Analysis**

If we divide Afghanistan into six regions for our current inquiry perhaps a situation similar to the following would emerge.

#### **Southern Afghanistan**

Nimroz, Helmand, Qandahar, Zabul, Ghazni.

Ghazni lying athwart major communications lines between northern and southern Afghanistan heated up in October suddenly, surprisingly surpassing Qandahar in the level of fighting for that month. Here, clearly enough, the Mujahideen were on the offensive. They started their operations on 3 October when they seized 3 security posts in Bashinkhel: and, continued hitting right and left to the end of the month. On 26 October, they had laid siege to the historic Ghazni city. In the vicinity of Ghazni some 300 soldiers surrendered to them, bringing alongwith them 3 tanks and 11 army vehicles.

One of the more morale-raising achievements of Mujahideen in fighting since the departure of regular Russian troops from Afghanistan, February last, was the annihilation of a stubborn militia "division" in Nawa district of Ghazni. It had guarded Sour Kalley, the native town of the first "President" of the Soviet-installed PDPA Kabul regime, Noor Mohammad Taraki. The garrison was stormed and taken after hand-to-hand fighting in which perished about 300 of 'ideologically trained' communist militia troops. Another about 1,500 soldiers were captured. Mujahideen said they had seized about 600 heavy and 2,000 light arms from this area. Mujahideen also suffered 125 casualties, among them 27 killed.

Other reports said that the garrison at Sour Kalley -- which had been Christened 'Red Village' -- contained a large proportion of commandos -- and, this actually was the "divisional headquarters" of paratroops.

Some observers said that with the fall of 'Sour Kalley' new

supply routes had opened up for Mujahideen in Ghazni, Zabul and Wardak provinces.

In Qandahar province, the Mujahideen continued routine daily rocketing of the Qandahar Airport complex and other areas and establishments of military significance. In one of these attacks, Major General Abdul Ahad, Deputy Commander of Qandahar garrison was killed. Four aircraft were also destroyed, atleast one on the ground.

It seemed that Mujahideen considerably accelerated urban guerilla activities within the four walls of Qandahar city, "arresting" two KHAD (Secret Police) agents on October 2. They followed up with attacks on the residences of regime officials on October 5. On October 7, Urban guerillas ransacked government supply a godown belonging to the Armed Forces. They ransacked the godown and distributed food among the needy in Qandahar city.

Qalat Ghilzai, the capital city of Zabul province, was repeatedly attacked during October. A security post was destroyed and some prisoners taken in the vicinity of Qalat.

From Nimroz, bordering Iran, Mujahideen reported a Kabul regime forces attack near the provincial capital, Zaranj. The attack was repulsed.

In Helmand province, the month of October saw considerable fighting. But, much of it apparently was between two Mujahideen factions, or to put it correctly, between the Mujahideen and a "former" Mujahideen leader, who had switched loyalty to the Kabul regime. In contention was the township of Hazarjuft.

On October 8, the 'renegade' Mujahideen commander Yahya, in collaboration with Kabul regime militias, made a surprise attack on Hazarjuft and took it.

On October 19, after a week's hard fighting, Mujahideen retook Hazarjuft. As soon as the Mujahideen returned, Soviet-made aeroplanes bombarded it heavily.

Apart from Radio Kabul, the BBC also reported clashes among Mujahideen groups in Helmand. It was stated that Hazarjuft town lies in an "opium producing area".

## **Eastern Afghanistan**

Paktika, Paktiya, Ningarhar, Kunar, Nooristan

As in previous some months, there were not any reports of fighting between Kabul regime forces and Mujahideen from Paktika, Kunar and Nooristan provinces. For one thing, there were not believed to be any organized Kabul regime forces in these parts. Yet, Kabul Radio, October 8, reported incidents of conflict between "Gulbuddin and Rabbani Groups" in Nooristan. The report neither mentioned the venue of these incidents, nor the number of casualties supposed to have been suffered by the Groups in internecine fighting.

In Ningarhar province, Kabul government troops carried out intensive bombardment and fired a number of missiles on Mujahideen strongholds. A Government spokesman, Muhammad Nabi Amani, said in Kabul that they had reports that Mujahideen were planning to launch another offensive on Jalalabad.

Mujahideen sources confirmed Kabul regime bombardment in Dara Noor, Khewa and Abdul Khel areas. That was on October 6 and 8. On October 9, a heavy bomb blast took place near Torkham on Pak-Afghan border. Possibly, the blast was produced by a Scud missile.

On October 16, 25 and 30, Soviet-made aircraft bombarded a large number of Mujahideen positions in Chapparhar, Surkurd, Rodat, Kuzakala, Baro, and Kadi Muzaar areas, among others.

Possibly, the Kabul regime was really apprehending a big Mujahideen attack on Jalalabad, as Mohammad Nabi Amani, stated in Kabul. Or, just as possible, they themselves planned to launch an offensive on the Jalalabad-Torkham road, of which they already had taken a stretch upto Ghaziabad Agricultural Farms. In that case, their recent air action in Ningarhar might be by way of softening up on the line of their intended advance.

As far as the 'capability' of the antagonists to launch and sustain effective offensive action in Ningarhar concerned, the

Mujahideen's prowess might not be underestimated either, even though they lack an airforce or a matching armoured wing of tanks and APCs. During the month of October, they made several successful attacks on Kabul regime troops and establishments in this area. For instance, on October 25, the Mujahideen attacked military posts set up by the Regime to guard the Kabul River bridge north of Kabul. Here a tank was knocked out and some troops captured. So, apparently, the Mujahideen were not very far off from Jalalabad: and, they could return to it.

However, what could possibly prove ominous for Mujahideen was a report that Soviet-made aircraft had been seen landing at the Jalalabad airport. It was attributed to Mujahideen sources and carried, among others, by BBC.

The Jalalabad Airport had remained closed for all kinds of air traffic -- with the exception perhaps of occasional helicopters -- for several months since March last. That was when Jalalabad city and airport were under effective Mujahideen siege. Then in July this year, an armoured corps unit broke the siege.

A pilot of the Afghan Air Force, Major Jalaluddin, who recently defected to Peshawar in a MIG-21 aircraft, reported that "sometimes" a Soviet Antanov T-2 aircraft brings supplies for the Jalalabad garrison. Experts say that reopening of the airport could be a significant development have its impact on fighting on atleast two vital sectors of fighting in Ningarhar, namely (1) along the road between Jalalabad and Kabul, and (2) along the road between Jalalabad and Torkham.

## **Paktiya**

The major garrison cities of Gardez and Khost continued to be under effective Mujahideen siege, even though the Regime tried to send a large military resupply convoy to Paktiya by way of Muhammad Agha-Pule Alam in Logar province. It, apparently, comprised several hundred vehicles, among others, tanks and APCs: and, was involved in a serious encounter with Mujahideen near Pule Alam, on or about October 15.

A later report said that the 'convoy' -- which had 200 tanks

and armored personnel carriers---had covered 50 kilometres, presumably from Kabul. That meant, it might have bypassed Pule Alam, and could possibly be somewhere in Paktiya province. A VIRA report said the convoy was being attacked with rockets. In retaliation, Soviet-made aeroplanes were bombarding Mujahideen position.

Interestingly, neither Kabul Radio, nor Moscow Radio reported the departure from Kabul or progress towards Gardez of the military convoy. Their silence on this matter could indicate that the convoy had not reached anywhere near Paktiya by the end of the month. Perhaps, they were watching its progress for a favourable report.

### **Northern Afghanistan**

Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Samangan, Balkh, Jozjan, Sar-e-pul, Faryab, Badghis.

There were not very many reports of fighting from Takhar, Kunduz and Badakhshan provinces in October. Perhaps with the advent of the winter season some of the mountain passes, through which supplies and reinforcements move, were snowbound, limiting drastically mobility of forces. This especially applies to Mujahideen "laskhars" scattered in small contingents over a wide area.

On the other hand, Mujahideen were fairly active in Baghlan, Samangan, Badghis and Balkh provinces. Commander Ahmad Shah Massoud, it seemed, had shifted some of his contingents from Kapisa to Baghlan and undertaken attacks on transport along the Salang Highway more vigorously. Possibly, this was done in coordination with some other Mujahideen groups, aiming at stalling movement of arms and ammunitions and other supplies from Hairatan to Kabul. The first of these attacks was undertaken on October 2, north of Qilagai on the road leading to Mazar Sharif. The vital communications centre of Pule Khumri was also attacked on the same day.

Likewise, clashes, along the Salang Highway were reported on October 8, 15, 20, 25, 26, 29 and 31. The regime lost a large

number of tanks and armoured personnel carriers as well as trucks and lorries.

Mujahideen urban guerillas were also active attacking regime and ruling party officials in the cities of Pule Khumori and Baghlan.

In the adjoining Samangan province, on October 21, more than 700 militiamen guarding security posts in the Roy Doab district surrendered to Mujahideen. They brought along a large quantity of arms and ammunitions. On the following day Mujahideen attacked regime establishments near the provincial capital, Aibak.

In Balkh, Mujahideen destroyed atleast three Soviet-made aircraft, two of these during an attack on an airport south-west of Mazar-e-Sharif. Another was shot down near Hairatan river port on October 29.

From Badghis province the Mujahideen reported the liberation of the Murghab district, which lies directly on the border of the Soviet Union. The district was taken on October 27 after 15 days of hard fighting. Two Soviet-made aircraft were shot down. This perhaps was the most conspicuous success of Mujahideen in Northern Afghanistan in October.

They followed this up with a vigorous attack on the provincial capital, Qila Nau, where 10 security posts were taken on October 29.

Mujahideen onslaught on Qila Nau was stemmed by, what seemed to be, a counter-attack preceded by prolonged airforce bombardment. A large number of combatants and noncombatants were killed during these attacks in the neighbourhood of Qila Nau and in Qadis district.

### **Western Afghanistan**

Herat, Farah

Moscow Radio reported on October 23 that the highway linking Herat city with Torghundi at the Soviet-Afghan border had been opened to traffic and convoys of trucks loaded with food, and essential goods were entering Afghanistan from the

Soviet Union. The protection of the highway, the Radio said, had been entrusted to locally raised militias. Nevertheless, on the following day (October 24) the Mujahideen ambushed a convoy between Herat and Torghundi. A tank and other heavy vehicle were destroyed.

Earlier on October 7, the Mujahideen attacked the headquarters of an armoured brigade at Maiforosh, setting ablaze an ammunition depot. On the same day the Mujahideen attacked troops and installations at Shindand Airbase.

According to a Radio Teheran broadcast on October 30, the Mujahideen attacked a Scud missiles base near the Shindand airport, inflicting heavy losses on Kabul regime troops. "In retaliation", Kabul regime troops shelled Mujahideen positions in the suburbs of Shindand. A large number of people were killed and wounded as a result of this bombardment.

In Farah province, the Mujahideen continued attacking security posts around the provincial capital, Farah city, and in the Jaween district. Both sides suffered casualties.

Another unconfirmed report said that a unit of Kabul regime militias attacked a convoy of Mujahideen on October 20 somewhere near Farah city. Seven Mujahideen, including their commander, Abdul Ahad, were killed in the 4-hour battle. Mujahideen killed 12 militiamen and injured 15 others. One of their tanks was also destroyed.

### **Central Afghanistan**

Ghor, Uruzgan, Bamiyan

As in the previous month, there was 'nil report' on fighting from the liberated Bamiyan province.

The level of conflict in the Ghor and Uruzgan provinces too was low. From Ghor, the Mujahideen reported only two incidents. On October 9, the Mujahideen killed 12 soldiers and destroyed a vehicle in the Shahrak district. On October 21, Soviet-made war planes bombed Tolak district, killing and wounding a number of persons.

The provincial headquarters of Uruzgan, Tarinkot, was

subjected to Mujahideen rocket attack on October 26. Mujahideen sources did not put out any details, but the Kabul Times of October 28, stated that 6 persons had been wounded when 'extremists' fired ground-to-ground rockets on Tarinkot. As against that 10 'extremists' were killed and dozens of others were wounded, when Kabul regime troops counter-attacked, it said.

### **Kabul and 'Shomali'**

Kabul, Parwarn, Kapisa, Laghman, Baghlan, Logar, Wardak.

The intensity of Mujahideen rocket attacks on Kabul city dropped drastically during October 1989, accounting for about fifteen human lives for the entire month. Curiously enough, Kabul and Moscow radio stations stepped up their propaganda theme that 'extremists' -- supported by "Pakistani, Saudi and American interventionists" -- were taking a heavy toll of civilians life and property by their nonstop rocket and missile attacks on Kabul city. This would lend further credence to allegations that elements closely connected with Moscow-Kabul might also have been firing some rockets on Kabul, those for instance, which hit bazaars, mosques and residential quarters.

In any case, Kabul province reported a large number of incidents, intimated both by the Mujahideen and the Kabul regime forces. Above all, the regime was interested in keeping open for traffic the three major highways connecting the capital city with (1) Charikar-Pule Khumri - and Hairatan (2) Jalalabad, and (3) Gardez. Kabul remained the most coveted single territorial possession for the Moscow-installed Najibullah regime to retain and the Mujahideen to gain.

Kabul's chief vulnerability probably lies in food, fuel and ammunition supplies which have to be brought through the Salang highway from the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union also airlifts warlike materials to Kabul. But the importance of the land route is overwhelming.

Thus over the month of October, Mujahideen commander Ahmed Shah Massoud concentrated upon interfering with



military convoys travelling along the Salang Highway.

Employing well-recognised guerilla tactics, he moved his men over a large area on both sides of the Salang Highway in the provinces of Kabul, Parwarn, Kapsia and Baghlan. Western news agencies reporting from Kabul said that the city had remained cut off from the north for seven days in a single stretch. That was in the first and second weeks of October. In the later half of the month too traffic on the Salang Highway was effectively interfered with.

As should have been expected, Kabul regime readily reacted to the Mujahideen offensive on the sensitive Salang Road and sent forth to meet it with armour as well as airforce. A number of bloody actions were fought in the hills near Charikar, Pule Khumri and Khinjan. Mujahideen claimed that they had hit a large number of tanks and shot down some aircraft, in addition to killing hundreds of troops. All the same, their own losses were considerable. One of the well-known Mujahideen leaders killed in action was Qari Kamal-ud-Din, local commander of Ahmad Shah Massoud on the Salang.

The Kabul regime sent out a powerful military convoy from Kabul towards Gardez via Muhammad Agha and Pule Alam. It comprised several hundred vehicles, trucks, tractor trollies, tanks and armoured personnel carriers. By the middle of October it had reached the vicinity of the Logar provincial headquarters, Pule Alam. But, somewhere near Pule Alam its further progress was stopped.

Likewise, on October 5, Kabul regime forces attacked Mujahideen obstructions on the Kabul-Jalalabad Highway from two sides, that is, from the side of Kabul and, from the direction of Laghman. Their aim was to clear Mujahideen presence in the vicinity of Ebrasham Gorges near Sarobi. It looks like that an encounter on October, 5, and a couple of others following it, remained inconclusive and neither side succeeded in gaining decisive upper hand locally.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

### Radio Kabul :

Given below were the major Kabul Radio propaganda themes in October 1989, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Pakistan's interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan : its unrealistic policies towards Afghanistan, which eventually prove harmful to Pakistan itself.
2. Mujahideen involvement in terrorist activities and narcotic smuggling : Differences in their ranks: Discord and ineptitude within the ranks of the Mujahideen.
3. Kabul regime efforts for peaceful settlement of Afghanistan problem: National Reconciliation Policy: its Services to Islam: Cease-fire offers: Implementation of Geneva Accords.
4. Interference of the United States in the internal affairs of Afghanistan; and Imperialistic Designs in the Region.
5. Persistent violations of the Geneva Accords by Pakistan and United States, inspite of their solemn commitments at the time of signing it.

### Radio Moscow :

Given below were the major Moscow media propaganda themes pertaining to Afghanistan Issue in October 1989, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Pakistan's interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan and its unwholesome impact on the Region.
2. Kabul regime's initiatives for peaceful settlement of Afghanistan problem.
3. Paksitan's acquisition of military hardware puts a heavy burden on its economy and simultaneously

leads to destabilization in the Region.

4. United States continued violations of Geneva Accords.
5. The Regime in Kabul enjoys wide popular support among the masses and is capable of restoring its peace and stability. As such it should be recognized as the legitimate government of Afghanistan.

## **AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT DECEMBER 1989**

# AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT

DECEMBER 1989

Kabul Regime made a perceptibly higher use of Soviet-supplied Scud missiles on Muajahideen positions in Kabul, Baghlan, Ningarhar and Paktia provinces in November. They restored to this presumably out of sheer desperation as large "Lashkers" of Mujahideen were banding together and converging on Kabul, Jalalabad, Khost and Gardez. Scud, in the context of the fighting in Afghanistan, has a certain capability of creating noise and terror as it courses through from pads near Kabul city to targets in the provinces. In one of these attacks, Kabul Administration claimed that about 200 Mujahideen were killed north of Kabul. Consequently, one or more convoys carrying fuel, food and warlike materials did reach Kabul during November from the Afghan-Soviet border river port at Hairaton. Nevertheless, the Mujahideen were soon back on the Salang Highway attacking and harassing transport.

While fighting in Kabul and the "Shomali" centered on efforts to control the roads, the Mujahideen achieved a significant local success about 30 kilometers northwest of Kabul at Pajak. Pajak was protected by about 25 security posts and was described to be the last Kabul regime strong-point in the strategic Paghman district.

Mujahideen, it would seem, launched a powerful offensive against Jalalabad on, or about, November 20, but failed to take it. In the process they drove out Regime troops between Ghaziabad Farms and Samarkhel and were able to hit Jalalabad directly for the first time in 2 months or more.

In Qandahar, Kabul Regime forces broke out of the Mujahideen siege and attacked their positions near Tor Kotal heights. The invading forces were spearheaded by about 50 tanks and aircraft. They captured the Mujahideen strong-point in the village Khushab. A large number of Kabul troops were killed in the fighting. Radio Kabul admitted the killing of two generals, Major General Ali Akbar and Brigadier General

Shamsuddin in this sector.

Mujahideen sources reported 302 incidents in 21 out of 31 Afghan provinces during November, 1989. Kabul forces conducted at least 54 air and 52 ground strikes against Mujahideen fixed positions.

The highest intensity of conflict was reported from Baghlan, Qandahar and Kabul provinces followed by Ningarhar and Herat.

On their part Kabul Radio reported continued friction among the Mujahideen factions in Qandahar. In a broadcast on November 24, it said, that an explosion had taken place in the "headquarters of Gulbuddin Hikmatyar group in which commander Abdul Rahim and 6 others were killed and many wounded." Kabul Radio attributed it to the rival Rabbani group. There was not any confirmation of this report, but it probably is true that Mujahideen war effort was being affected by their failure to resolve differences.

In Ghazni province, the Mujahideen captured some important security posts near Shabekhail, south west of Maqur. This yielded them a sizeable quantity of arms and ammunition.

Exchange of rockets and missiles continued between Mujahideen and regime forces around the besieged Zabul, capital of Qalate Ghilzai. Both sides claimed having inflicted heavy casualties on their opponents. The Mujahideen said that atleast 4 Kabul regime military officers and a larger number of common soldiers had crossed over to their lines and surrendered.

In Helmand province, the Mujahideen attacked a military convoy travelling between Lashkargah and Herat. They claimed having destroyed 65 trucks. Similarly, Mujahideen said they had captured 3 security posts near Grishak.

From Nimroz only one incident was reported. This related to Mujahideen attack on a security post near Zarang, capital of Nimroz province. Here they seized 45 pieces of assorted weapons.

## **Eastern Afghanistan**

Paktika, Paktia, Ningarhar, Kunar, Nuristan.

Of the 5 eastern provinces, three namely, Paktika, Kunar and Nuristan yielded nil war reports in November. Kabul regime forces have withdrawn from these provinces and the Mujahideen installed local administrations. They have already undertaken the task of clearing out booby-traps and mines, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Fighting in Paktia was at a much lower level of intensity during November: 7 incidents, as compared to 26 incidents for October. Nevertheless, the provincial headquarters, Gardez, and the strategic garrison town of Khost remained under effective Mujahideen siege.

Both Kabul and Moscow radio reported Mujahideen attacks on Kabul regime positions in Khost, Gardez, Tani, and Ismailkhel, which drew forth regime's 'retaliatory' response, resulting in the killing of many Mujahideen. Mujahideen confirmed several aerial attacks on their positions near Khost and Gardez. In some of these attacks on November 25, Soviet-made aircraft reportedly used Scud missiles and napalm bombs.

If fighting in Paktia had slackened somewhat in November, it picked up in Ningarhar. Apparently, on November 14 Mujahideen launched a powerful offensive on Jalalabad city and airport. About 4,000 fighters from all the seven Mujahideen parties launched the attack east of Samarkhel and overran a number of security posts. This gave them control over stretch of the Torkham-Samarkhel-Jalalabad highway. The Mujahideen were thus able to fire rockets on Jalalabad garrison after a longish break. The guerillas also said that they had blocked the road leading from Jalalabad to Kabul, some 100 miles to the west.

According to the Mujahideen, Soviet-made aircraft retaliated by heavily bombarding Mujahideen positions. They fired Scud missiles. One of these landed in the vicinity of Khogiani, near the Pakistani border.

A Kabul regime spokesman said in Kabul that the guerilla

attacks on Jalalabad had been foiled. He also claimed on November 17 that heavy casualties had been inflicted on the guerillas. The Kabul regime spokesman said that recent acceleration in the fighting was part of a well-planned Mujahideen scheme. He asserted that "Pakistani troops," and Saudi "Wahabis" were collaborating with "armed Afghan Extremists" in their warlike activities in several parts of Ningarhar, including Jalalabad, Chaparhar, Behsud and Samarkhel areas.

Radio Moscow said that 'combined attack' of Afghan Extremists, and Pakistani and Saudi "mercenaries" on Jalalabad had been defeated. It quoted Kabul Administration sources as saying that more than 400 guerillas were killed in the renewed fighting for Jalalabad.

#### **Northern Afghanistan**

Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Samangan, Balkh, Jozjan, Sar-e-pul, Faryab, Badghis.

In November, fighting apparently slowed down - or ceased -- in some parts of northern Afghanistan. There were no war reports from Takhar, Jozjan and Sar-e-pul, for instance. Contributory factors to this phenomenon were assumed to be: (a) weather, and (b) absence of sizeable Kabul regime forces in these provinces. Another possible reason could be the destruction of one, or two Mujahideen arms and ammunition dumps near the Pakistan-Afghanistan border, Garm Chashma, on November 15. Diplomats said that as a result of these explosions important arms dumps of Afghan Mujahideen had been destroyed at a time when the supply of American weapons was drying up and other arms supplying countries were trying to make up for the deficiency.

However, Badakhshan, Kunduz, Faryab and Badghis witnessed some sharp encounters. Fierce fighting took place around Kunduz city. On November 20 Kabul regime forces launched an offensive against Mujahideen positions around the nearby villages of Zakhel Khumdam and Zar Kharid. Diplomats

said the attack was intended as a pre-emptive strike against resistance forces rumoured to be preparing an offensive against Kunduz city. The regime's attack, accompanied by aerial and artillery bombardment, reportedly caused heavy civilian casualties. Kunduz province is adjacent to the Soviet border and most of it is under Mujahideen control. Last year the Mujahideen had captured the provincial capital, Kunduz city, but had to retreat after 3 days of severe bombing by Russian-made aircraft.

In Balkh, the Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and establishments in Daulatabad sub-division on November 17 killing and wounding a large number of soldiers. They claimed to have wiped out no less than 15 security posts in Khairabad district which lies some 30 kilometres north of Mazare Sharif. A major road from Khairabad leads to the Soviet border. They also fired rockets on the large Russian-equipped airbase at Dehdadi, about 10 kilometres south-west of Mazare Sharif.

According to one unconfirmed Mujahideen report, "Russian" tanks crossed the border of Afghanistan into Faryab province on November 2 and shelled their positions in Andkhoy district, 28 kilometres from the international border. Earlier on November 2, Mujahideen had captured some important Kabul regime fortifications in the same area. Here more than 50 Kabul regime soldiers, including twentyone officers were killed. The regime responded by opening up with severe aerial bombardment of the Mujahideen positions in villages suspected of harboring them. A Soviet-made helicopter was shot down by Mujahideen.

Mujahideen continued their siege of Qala-e-Nau, capital of Badghis province and attacked regime troops in Qadis subdivision. Earlier they had captured Murghab township, about 20 kilometres from the Soviet border. The town was taken after 15 days of fighting, in which both sides suffered heavy casualties. A large number of unconnected civilians were also killed and wounded, some reportedly from shelling coming from across the border.

## **Western Afghanistan**

Herat, Farah.

Mujahideen sources reported considerable acceleration in fighting in the Herat province during November. There were 10 incidents in October, and 29 in November, that is, an increase of almost 200 per cent. Curiously enough Kabul-Moscow media sources were silent on the subject.

The Kabul Times carried a couple of stories on returning refugees from Iran and Pakistan. Herat has seen continuous fighting since March 1979 when the Herat garrison of Kabul army mutined under the leadership of captains Ismail Khan and Alauddin Khan.

In November 1989, the Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and establishments in the Herat city and Airport areas besides Shindand airbase which harbours a large fleet of Russian-made strategic fighters/bombers. The Mujahideen also hit military convoys on the Torghundi-Herat and Herat-Islam Qala highways. The former connects Herat with the Soviet Union and the latter with Iran. The ambush on Herat-Torghundi road took place on November 11, when several Soviet-made tanks and armoured cars -- and a large number of trucks -- were knocked out. Only two days later, i.e. on November 13, Mujahideen attacked troops in Herat city killing among others a 'high-ranking' officer. In another encounter in the same area they destroyed 5 tanks and 19 jeeps. Mujahideen suffered 34 casualties, among them 9 killed. One of the killed was a Mujahideen 'commander'. Urban guerrillas, according to Radio Teheran, on November 9, made a daring rocket attack on the Governor House in Herat city. At least 5 guards were killed and the building damaged.

In the adjoining Farah province, the Mujahideen shot down a Russian-made helicopter in Anardara while it was bombarding Mujahideen positions.

## **Central Afghanistan**

Uruzgan, Ghor, Bamiyan.

There were no war reports from Central Afghanistan, where the capitals of Uruzgan (Tarinkot) and Ghor (Chagcharan) are in the possession of Kabul Regime. The whole of the Hazara-dominated Bamiyan province is under the control of the Mujahideen.

## **Kabul & Shomali**

Kabul, Parwan, Kapisa, Baghlan, Laghman, Logar, Wardak

Fighting in Kabul and Shomali was fierce. In November Baghlan reported 49 incidents and Kabul 46. These provinces, it will be noted, lie on or along the highway which connects the Oxus river port Hairatan on the Soviet border with the capital, Kabul.

The Salang Highway remained closed for long intervals in October, and was declared 'reopened' to traffic on November 1. A spokesman of the Foreign Ministry in Kabul said that the Government had regained control of the Highway after making Scud missiles attacks. He added that 200 Mujahideen of Ahmad Shah Masaud's group were killed in these attacks.

Later reports, however, made it clear that Kabul government's 'control' of the Salang route had at best been temporary, for yet another announcement was made on November 18 saying that movement of military convoys on Salang highway had been "restored" on that date. Apparently on November 19 a large shipment of armoured vehicles arrived in Kabul.

Meanwhile heavy fighting continued between Mujahideen and regime soldiers around Kabul for strategic posts in the nearby Paghman mountains. Kabul regime soldiers fired Soviet-supplied Missiles and cannon shells into the mountains, but Mujahideen were able to drive out troops from the strongly held garrison town of Pajak. Pajak is about 30 kilometres west of Kabul.

The Pajak garrison lay sandwiched between 25 smaller government posts. It was a difficult target which the Mujahideen had long fought to achieve. It was said to be the last government controlled garrison in Paghman area. The surrounding plains stretch right upto the outer edges of the capital.

Mujahideen made atleast two missile attacks on Kabul Airport during the month of November. Two jet fighters and a number of vehicles were hit. According to Kabul regime sources Mujahideen fired rockets on Kabul city on November 3, 7 and 26. They said that approximately 50 civilians had been killed during these attacks. Kabul and Moscow radio high-lighted stories of Mujahideen missile attacks on Kabul, presumably not without some hidden propagandistic purpose.

There were no war reports from Kapisa province which has been completely liberated and where Ahmad Shah Masoud was trying to set up a regular administrative set up.

According to Kabul Radio, "extremists" seized 53 trucks of 'essential commodities' in Khinjan, Iladoshah and Tangai Said areas, along the Salang Highway. Mujahideen sources stated that some 200 trucks carrying fuel, foodstuff and military hardware were destroyed.

According to Kabul Radio the convoys being attacked between Hairatan and Kabul were carrying U.N. supplied relief goods under the Star-2 operation.

Sporadic fighting continued in Laghman and Logar provinces.

In Laghman, Mujahideen attacked security posts guarding the provincial capital, Mehtaralam.

There were not any war reports from the Wardak province.

## PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

### Radio Kabul :

Given below were Radio Kabul propaganda themes in November 1989, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Mujahideen terrorist acts; their involvement in drug paddling; disunity in their ranks; AIG instability to delve goods.
2. Pakistan's continued involvement in the bloodshed of Afghans with the ultimate goal of annexing it as its fifth province.
3. United State's involvement in the internal affairs of Afghanistan resulting in the creation of regional problems.
4. Kabul regime's efforts for peaceful solution of the Afghanistan problem by implementation of Geneva Accords; Solution of the Afghan problem is only possible through political means and intra-Afghan dialogue.
5. Violation of Geneva Accords by Pakistan and United States.

### Radio Moscow :

Given below were the Moscow Radio propaganda themes pertaining to Afghanistan issue in November 1989, in descending order of recurrence.

1. Soviet-Kabul efforts for peaceful solution of the Afghanistan problem through intra-Afghan dialogue.
2. Mujahideen terrorist acts, their involvement in drug trafficking; continuation of a senseless war despite peace initiatives of the Kabul regime.
3. Pakistan's involvement in the Afghan war in violation of the Geneva Accords.
4. Limited Pak-Soviet cooperation in some fields such as economy and exchange of official delegations.
5. Violations of Geneva Accords by United States.

Notes :- The highlight of this month's developments is a significant decrease in the frequency of Soviet Afghan war propaganda.

**AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT**  
**JANUARY 1990**



# AFGHANISTAN WAR REPORT

## JANUARY 1990

Mujahideen attacks on military positions in Afghanistan continued throughout December 1989, even though intensity of conflict decreased significantly. The number of incidents reported by Mujahideen for the month was 256, the lowest since the departure of Russian combat troops in February last. The winter season could have been one possible reason for this, but not the only explanation. In December last year, for instance, there were 435 reported incidents.

Baghlan, Herat, Balkh, Kabul, Ningarhar and Paktiya witnessed more of fighting than other provinces. Apparently, the Mujahideen were more active in Northern Afghanistan, and, the Kabul regime forces in Southern Afghanistan. As in previous months, fighting concentrated along the main communications arteries, namely (a) the Salang Highway, (b) Kabul-Jalalabad Highway and (c) Torghundi-Herat-Qandahar Highway.

The Kabul regime was able to push through some supply convoys to Kabul from the Northern river port of Haraitan, as well as, one from Kabul to Jalalabad.

They also claimed to have repulsed Mujahideen attacks on the strategic cities of Jalalabad and Khost and consolidated previous month's gains in the Tor Kotal and Kushab suburbs of Qandahar.

Meanwhile, during the first week of December, a group of Afghan army generals including the Air Defence Chief were arrested in Kabul for plotting a coup against Najibullah. Western correspondents in the Afghan capital said that the 'plot', which had resulted in hundreds of arrests including 11 generals, could further widen rifts within the ranks of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA). The sources said, the arrests triggered "discontent" among Khalq members, a minority in the 191 member PDPA Central Committee.

A spokesman of the Najibullah regime confirmed in Kabul

that a group plotting to overthrow President Najibullah had infiltrated the ruling party and the top levels of the military. Deputy Security Minister, Yar Mohammad said their main objective was to take over political power in the country. Western news agency AFP said it was widely believed that several generals were activists of the Central Organisation of Islamic Party (COIP), which had been linked to Afghan Mujahideen faction Hezb-e-Islami led by Gulbaddin Hekmatyar.

Mujahideen sources reported 256 incidents in 24 out of 31 Afghan provinces during December 1989. The total comprised 40 Mujahideen strikes on mobile targets and 134 strikes against immobile targets. Soviet-Kabul forces conducted at least 36 air and 46 ground strikes against Mujahideen.

### URBAN CONFLICT

Urban conflict was witnessed in and around 18 provincial capitals, including the major cities of Kabul, Qandahar and Jalalabad.

### SOVIET-KABUL COVERAGE

According to Soviet-Kabul media reports Security forces conducted 75 operations in 11 provinces. Kabul media stated 1,675 Counter-Revolutionaries were killed and 691 wounded. It was reported that Counter-Revolutionary elements carried out 89 "acts of subversion" in 7 provinces.

### DEFECTIONS

According to Mujahideen reports 138 Afghan troops defected to Mujahideen during December. Defections took place in 4 provinces. More than 2,000 Kabul military and paramilitary personnel were taken prisoner.

### AIR LOSSES

The air losses increased slightly in the month of December as compared to November 1989. During this month 6 aircraft and one helicopter were destroyed on the airfields of Qandahar, Ghazni, Mazar-e-Sharif, Kabul and Bagram. In addition to that 9 aircraft and 6 helicopters were shot down in the provinces of Zabul, Qandahar, Paktiya, Kunduz, Baghlan, Balkh, Faryab, Badghis, Herat and Farah.

### HUMAN LOSSES

According to the Mujahideen estimates Human Losses for December were:

|                       |            |       |
|-----------------------|------------|-------|
| Kabul casualties      | 697 killed | 572   |
| wounded               |            |       |
| Mujahideen casualties | 72 "       | 42 "  |
| Civilian casualties   | 127 "      | 138 " |

Human Losses reported by Kabul media were:

|                         |              |       |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------|
| Mujahideen casualties   | 1,675 killed | 691   |
| wounded                 |              |       |
| Civilian casualties     | 47 "         | 127 " |
| Kabul troops casualties | 18 "         | 55 "  |

### SOUTHERN AFGHANISTAN (Nimroz, Helmand, Qandahar, Zabul, Ghazni)

In December, Kabul regime troops continued to consolidate their positions in the Tor Kotal and Khushab suburbs of Qandahar city. Mujahideen had been forced out from this area during the previous month. Kabul, Moscow and All India Radios said Kabul regime forces were engaged in 'mopping up operations' in Qandahar and that heavy casualties had been inflicted on the Mujahideen.

Nevertheless, the Mujahideen allowed no let up to regime

forces in the Qndahar Airport sector, which apart from having both military and civilian air traffic and repair facilities, also serves as a large military base for troops. They attacked the Airport Complex on December 5, 10, 24 and 27 and destroyed a number of aircraft. During the December 5 attack a large ammunition dump was hit.

On December 22, Russian-made aircraft bombed Zangiabad, a suburb of Qandahar city.

There were reports of internal dissensions and infighting among the Kabul militias. For instance, Mujahideen said 4 government troops were killed during a clash between Jowzjani militia and Esmat Muslim militia in Qandahar city on December 20. On the other hand, All India Radio quoting Kabul regime sources in Qndahar reported: "infighting has again erupted between Gulbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e-Islami and Burhanuddin Rabbani's Islamic Society factions, killing some 30 Afghan rebels and wounding several others".

In the extreme south-western provinces of Nimroz and Helmand fighting seemed to have slowed down considerably. There was nil conflict report from Mujahideen in Nimroz: but, in Helmand Mujahideen claimed they had attacked the important communications centre Grishik, 120 kilometres west of Qandahar, on December 3. Here 10 government soldiers were killed and 14 captured.

In Zabul province, Mujahideen ambushed a military convoy near Jaldak town on Kabul-Qandahar highway. A tank was destroyed. On the following day a helicopter gunship was shot down near Qalat-e-Ghilzai, the provincial capital.

Mujahideen beat back a massive military offensive on their positions in the outskirts of besieged Qalat-e-Ghilzai. The attack was led by a notorious militia commander, Rashed Dushtim. It took place about 2 miles north of Qalat. Rashed had earlier been flown to Qalat along with a specially trained commando force of 400 men.

Mujahideen killed or wounded about 100 Kabul regime troops and militiamen in Ghazni province. The fighting concentrated around the capital, Ghazni city. A number of tanks

and trucks were destroyed, and a helicopter hit on the ground at Ghazni Airport. Urban guerillas attacked a ruling communist party office in Ghazni city. Atleast 3 Party activists were killed.

**EASTERN AFGHANISTAN** (Paktika, Pakiya, Ningarhar, Kunar, Nooristan)

There was not any significant change in the situation of the beleaguered Khost city. The government was not able to take its supplies to the garrison through land routes for nearly two months. Most of the supplies were dropped through parachutes. Reliable Western observers noted that a high portion of these supplies fell in the hands of the Mujahideen. A Russian-made transport aircraft ventured to land at Khost airfield on December 2 night, but was hit with Mujahideen rockets and fell at the runway.

(Atleast three important Kabul regime leaders-President Najibullah, Defence Minister Shahnawaz Tani and Interior Minister Watanyar-belong to Pakiya province in the defence of which Khost plays a pivotal role).

Fighting in the vicinity of Khost has been intense over the years. There are believed to be 20 to 25 security posts on a nearby hill called Tora Ghara (Black Hill). These have recently been subjected to increased pressure by the Mujahideen. In order to relieve pressure Kabul regime fired several Scud missiles at Mujahideen positions from launching pads in the capital Kabul. Russian-made fighter planes flying on high altitudes also dropped bombs on Mujahideen. Many Mujahideen were thus killed.

Kabul Radio repeated, over and over again, during December that the Mujahideen had shelled "residential areas" and security posts in Khost, Zazi Maidan, Tor Ghar and the provincial capital, Gardez. In reprisal, the Security Forces attacked the positions of "Pakistan-backed rebels" of whom a large number were killed.

According to Mocow Radio "Armed Opposition Forces" made several attempts during December to "approach" Jalalabad, Afghanistan's third largest city, but they were repulsed by

government troops. It quoted the official Bakhtar News Agency as saying: "Unable to launch another massive offensive, they (Mujahideen) have again resorted to firing rockets against the city and surrounding security posts".

Mujahideen and Kabul Regime sources corroborate Moscow Radio reports that intensive fighting had taken place in Ningarhar province in December in the close vicinity of Jalalabad, Jalalabad Airport, Samarkhel, and Surkhrud. During these exchanges Mujahideen inflicted heavy casualties on Regime forces. They shot down a Russian-made fighter plane near Samarkhel.

It seems, the Mujahideen seriously interfered with transport on the Jalalabad-Kabul highway, but the government was able to push through one or two supply convoys to Jalalabad.

Towards the end of the month on 27 December, Kabul regime forces mounted an attack on Mujahideen positions (somewhere) south of Jalalabad. According to Mujahideen reports this "massive offensive" was beaten back.

BBC, quoting Kabul Regime, as well as, Mujahideen sources, said that three important Mujahideen guerilla commanders had been killed near Jalalabad city during December. They were said to have played leading roles in the fighting earlier this year. They were named as: Zarab Gul, Alias Khomeini and Rozuddin Khalid of Khalis Group, and Abdul Mateen of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar Group.

Last month, an Afghan general, Ghulam Haider had been killed during fighting near Jalalabad.

There were not any war reports, from Paktika, Kunar and Nooristan provinces during the month of December. All three have been liberated by the Mujahideen.

**NORTHERN AFGHANISTAN** (Badakhshan, Takhar, Kunduz, Baghlan, Samangan, Balkh, Jozjan, Sar-e-Pul, Faryab, Badghis)

Mujahideen captured some key military posts of Kabul regime in Baghlan, Balkh and Kunduz province during

December and continued assaults on Maimana city, capital of Faryab province. Mujahideen reports suggested that one of the bloodiest battles of the 10 years of the Fourth Afghan War was fought around Maimana. Here the Mujahideen were faced with a powerful array of Russian-supplied heavy artillery, armour and air force.

Renewed fighting for Maimana had started on December 2. At least 3 helicopters had already been downed by missiles and anti-aircraft guns, when last reports came in. In one of these helicopters was supposed to be travelling a brigadier-general, identified as Alam. He was killed. Casualties on both sides were heavy.

In Baghlan province, the Mujahideen captured the township of Hasantal, near the provincial capital. That happened on December 5 and, it was calculated, Mujahideen attacks on Baghlan city would be facilitated after the fall of Hasantal.

In Baghlan--where ground operations seemed to have been considerably restricted due to heavy snowfall-- Russian-made aircraft of the Kabul regime attacked villages in the Faizabad district. A Scud missile landed near a Mujahideen stronghold in Kisham valley. Two Scud missiles had hit the same area in October.

Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and establishments in Takhar province on December 7, 9 and 31. The attacks took place near Yangi Qila, north of Taloqan, Khawaja Ghar and Dasht Qila. About 100 regime troops and militiamen were killed. Dasht Qila lies on the southern bank of Amu Dariya (Oxus river) which demarcates international boundary between the Soviet Central Asia and Afghanistan.

Also during December, four commanders of one of the Mujahideen groups (Hezb-e-Islami) were publicly hanged in Northern Afghanistan by supporters of a rival group (Jamiat-e-Islami). They were accused of ambushing and killing in July last more than 30 members of the Jamiat-e-Islami group.

The hangings were believed to have taken place in the city of Taloqan, controlled by the Mujahideen. A statement by the

Jamiat-e-Islami said that the four were tried by an Islamic Court.

Those hanged in Taloqan included one of the top commanders of Hezb-e-Islami, Said Jamal.

Kabul Radio said that armed clashes had taken place between the Hezb and Jamiat-e-Islami groups in the Eshkamish district of Tkhar.

Kabul Radio said that regime troops had carried out "mopping up operations" in different parts of Kunduz province. On their part, the Mujahideen radio station Voice of Islamic Revolutionary Afghanistan (VIRA) also reported severe fighting "west of Kunduz city".

The border province of Balkh saw sharp exchanges between Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces at or near Daulatabad, Mazar-e-Sharif, Shortapa and Qila Taimur. The fiercest battles were fought in the liberated Daulatabad district, which was invaded by Kabul regime forces on December 8.

The fighting continued for about 15 days. Mujahideen reports claimed that the Kabul regime offensive was beaten back. During the fighting civilians in Daulatabad suffered heavily in men and material losses. Mujahideen said at least 2 Russian-made aircraft were destroyed.

Another report stated that Russian-made air force had heavily bombed Afghan resistance bases near Hairatan in Balkh province. Hairatan is a river port on the Oxus River on the northern-most tip of the Salang Highway, which connects the Afghan capital Kabul with the Soviet Union. The report, dated 14 December, and carried by Beijing Radio said that, following this bombardment traffic was restored on a section of the Highway. Four hundred trucks were seen heading towards Kabul and a two hundred trucks convoy was going towards the Soviet Union, the report added.

#### **WESTERN AFGHANISTAN (Herat, Farah)**

Fighting continued in December between Mujahideen and Kabul regime forces in the two western provinces of Herat and Farah which lie on vital road and air communication lines

connecting Soviet Central Asian Republic of Turkminia and Iran with Afghanistan. Mujahideen claimed that they had repeatedly attacked government transport on the Tor-Ghondi-Herat section of the highway near the Soviet border. In one of these attacks five armoured vehicles and 3 trailers, carrying Russian-supplies to Herat, were destroyed. They also seized a quantity of arms and ammunition.

Likewise, the Mujahideen attacked a military convoy in Sufaid Kotal area on Meshad-Islam-Qila--Herat road. Security posts in Sufaid Kotal and Zindajan sub-divisions were also attacked.

On their part, Kabul regime forces mounted a sizeable offensive on Mujahideen positions in Hajiabad and Gorgabad areas, close to the Iranian border, on December 13. Fighting continued for several days. Mujahideen estimated they had killed or injured more than 100 troops.

Other Mujahideen reports said they had shot down at least two Soviet-made aircraft during December in Herat. They also laid anti-tank mines on roads used by Kabul regime transport.

Meanwhile, hit-and-run urban guerilla attacks continued on Kabul regime troops and establishments inside Herat city and on the Herat Airport.

Kabul Radio reported on December 18 that three Arab nationals--(one belonging to Saudi Arabia and two to Iraq)--who had entered Herat province for "espionage and terrorist activities" were tried and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, ranging from 17 to 20 years.

In Farah province, the Mujahideen on December 18 ambushed a military detachment on Herat-Qandahar highway, hitting 4 tanks.

On December 21 they attacked a Khad--Afghan Secret Police Service--establishment near the Iranian border. A high officer of the Secret Service was killed. Guerillas also attacked security posts around the provincial capital, Farah city.

Mujahideen claimed they had shot down a helicopter in Khasi Paseed district on December 12.

## **CENTRAL AFGHANISTAN (Bamiyan, Ghor, Uruzgan)**

None of the Kabul-Moscow, Mujahideen, or Tehran-Islamabad sources reported hostilities from Bamiyan province which is supposed to be devoid of Kabul regime troops.

In Ghor province, the Mujahideen fired rockets on the airbase area of the capital city, Chaghcharn. On December 15 or 16 a helicopter and three vehicles were hit.

Similarly, Mujahideen attacked Kabul regime troops and establishments in Shehrak district. Both sides suffered casualties.

The provincial headquarters of Uruzgan, Tarin-Kot was hit with rockets and missiles on November 30 and December 12. A number of buildings were seen burning.

A Radio Kabul broadcast on December 18, admitting casualties in the garrison town, said that "in retaliation" the security forces had killed 93 "terrorists" and destroyed a huge quantity of arms and ammunition.

## **KABUL AND SHOMALI (Kabul, Parwan, Kapisal, Laghman, Logar and Wardak)**

Mujahideen launched an intensive rocket barrage on Kabul on December 27 to mark the 10th anniversary of the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan. The French News Agency, AFP, correspondent quoting a government spokesman in Kabul said dozens of people had been killed and several military garrisons hit.

[The day was also marked by rallies, in several countries by Afghan refugees. Thousands of Afghan refugees in Peshawar burned effigies of Najibullah and vowed to keep on fighting for his down-fall. In New Delhi, nearly 500 Afghan men, women and children, gathered at a rally. They planned to hand over a letter to the Soviet Embassy, demanding Najibullah's step down and Moscow cease its involvement in Afghan affairs].

More than 50 missiles were fired on Kabul on December 27. The attack came after more than a week of virtually daily

strikes. According to eye witnesses several rockets fell near or inside the airport, the military cantonment at Kargha and the Darulaman areas. Some others landed in residential and commercial areas.

Meanwhile, the airlift of food and arms to Kabul from the Soviet Union continued, even though the number of huge cargo planes had declined.

During the month of December, the Najibullah regime conducted several security sweeps to flush out guerillas from Kabul city. They also fired a new generation of short range Soviet-supplied missiles mainly in the Paghman district, west of the capital. Kabul citizens heard the roar of medium-range Scud missiles nearly every evening, correspondents in Kabul reported. The powerful missiles sent out arcs of light across the sky as they sped towards the front in the provinces.

Earlier on December 5, BBC quoted Najibullah officials in Kabul as saying that the government had arrested one hundred members of a secret guerilla network operating in the capital. The State Security Minister said that the guerillas had belonged to the Mujahideen group led by Gulbuddin Hekmatyar. It said they had been planning to assassinate public figures and cause subversion in the armed forces and had planted bombs in Kabul. Later reports indicated that the arrested persons included 11 generals of the Kabul army and air force.

Moscow Radio in a broadcast on December 10: said that 300 servicemen and civilians were involved in an anti-government plot uncovered in Afghanistan recently.

Moscow Radio in a broadcast on the last day of the year, December 31, said "A spokesman of Afghan Foreign Ministry has announced that the Irreconcilables continued intensive shelling of Kabul and other cities, well after the last Soviet soldier left the country in February. Over two thousand rockets, he said, had since been fired on Kabul alone. Ammunition, he said, was supplied by the United States and other Western countries through Pakistan. The attacks left 438 civilians dead and over 1,300 injured, including women, children and elderly people."

The Afghan Mujahideen launched a series of fresh attacks in Baghlan, Kabul and Parwan provinces during December to halt Soviet supplies to Najibullah government through the Salang route. The Salang road was thus effectively blocked for traffic between Charikar and Jabal-us-Siraj on December 16. In the meantime, the two sides carried out heavy shelling on each other. The Afghan Air Force, it was stated, was unable to bomb the Mujahideen effectively due to unfavourable weather; and, the heavy shelling and Scud missiles fired by the government caused heavy losses to the villages rather than the Mujahideen.

The road branching out from Kabul through Logar to Gardez, Ghazni and Qandahar remained closed to government convoys.

However, Najibullah government was able to send a convoy of about 200 vehicles and tanks to the besieged Jalalabad on the 15th and 16th of December. On the following day, 100 or 150 vehicles returned to Kabul from Jalalabad. The Afghan airforce heavily bombed Mujahideen positions on both sides of the road.

Mujahideen sources said that they had launched successful rocket and missile attacks on the Bagram Airbase, north of Kabul in Parwan province on December 19 and 23 hitting a number of aircraft and installations.

There were not any war reports from Kapisa, where there are not supplied to be any Kabul regime forces.

According to Soviet News Agency, TASS, many people were killed when Mujahideen shelled Metherlam city in Laghman province on December 13, 19, 25 and 28. "In retaliation, 52 extremists were killed and most of their weapons destroyed" TASS added.

In Logar province, the Kabul regime forces fired Soviet supplied rockets on Haroonkhel village on 30 November. On December 3, the Mujahideen shot down a helicopter near Mohammad Agha. The helicopter was bombing rural communities in the liberated area.

During a daring urban guerrilla action on 16 December, the Mujahideen raided a Khad office in the Wardak provincial capital, Maidan Shehr, and killed or injured 30 officers and men

of the Secret Police Service.

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

Twelve Months of 1988 Compared with Twelve Months of 1989

### January to December

|                           | : 1988  | : 1989  | :     |
|---------------------------|---------|---------|-------|
| DECREASED (D)             |         |         |       |
| INCREASED(I)              |         |         |       |
| Number of total incidents | : 4301  | : 4621  | : (I) |
| Maj Operation             | : 3260  | : 3035  | : (D) |
| Soviet-Kabul Operations   | : 1041  | : 1564  | : (I) |
| Air Losses                | : 262   | : 301   | : (I) |
| Kabul Troops killed       | : 10728 | : 12903 | : (I) |
| Mujahideen killed         | : 2392  | : 2370  | : (D) |

## PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE THEMES

### Radio Kabul:

Given below were the major Kabul media propaganda themes in December 1989, in descending order of recurrence:

1. Aggravation of the dispute is due to violation of Geneva Accords and regional policies of Pakistan.
2. Killing in large numbers of the Afghan people as a result of criminal activities of counter-revolutionaries, their indulgence in drug trafficking.
3. Kabul government's efforts for the settlement of the Afghan issue through peaceful means.
4. Achievements of National Reconciliation Policy of the Kabul Government.
5. United States' backing the Counter-revolutionaries.

### Radio Moscow:

Given below were the major Moscow media propaganda themes pertaining to Afghan Issue during December 1989, in descending order of recurrence:

1. The Afghan Issue can be solved through political means. Fighting can further aggravate regional tensions.
2. Mujahideen's terrorist acts, involvement in drug peddling and in capability to represent the Afghan people has created hatred against them among the masses.
3. United States' interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is the greatest hurdle in the way of peaceful settlement of the issue.
4. Pakistan's interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan is in violation of Geneva Accords.
5. Pakistan's militaristic designs reflected in her efforts in the Nuclear Technology field, as well as, recent War games on a grand scale are a cause of concern to neighbours.

**APPENDIX - 1**  
**PROVINCE-WISE ENGAGEMENTS IN OCTOBER 1989**  
**(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)**

| Provinces                 | Total Engagements | Provincial Capitals | Inside City | Engagements Vicinity of City |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Bordering Paksitan</b> |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Nimruz                    | -                 | Zaranj              | -           | -                            |
| Helmand                   | 16                | Lashkargah          | -           | -                            |
| Qandahar                  | 32                | Qandahar            | -           | -                            |
| Zabul                     | 6                 | Kalat Gilzai        | 2           | 2                            |
| Ghazni                    | 35                | Ghazni              | -           | 3                            |
| Paktika                   | -                 | Sharna              | -           | -                            |
| Paktiya                   | 26                | Gardez              | 1           | -                            |
| Ningarhar                 | 36                | Jalalabad           | -           | 15                           |
| Kunar                     | -                 | Chagha Sarai        | -           | -                            |
| Nooristan                 | -                 | Nooristan           | -           | -                            |
| <b>Bordering USSR</b>     |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Badakhshan                | 4                 | Faizabad            | -           | -                            |
| Takhar                    | -                 | Taloqan             | -           | -                            |
| Kunduz                    | -                 | Kunduz              | -           | -                            |
| Baghlan                   | 27                | Baghlan             | 1           | -                            |
| Samangan                  | 13                | Samangan            | -           | 8                            |
| Balkh                     | 12                | Mazar Sharif        | -           | -                            |
| Jozjan                    | 1                 | Shebergan           | -           | -                            |
| Sar-e-pul                 | -                 | Sar-e-pul           | -           | -                            |
| Faryab                    | -                 | Maimana             | -           | -                            |
| Badghis                   | 25                | Qala Nau            | -           | 3                            |
| <b>Bordering Iran</b>     |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Herat                     | 10                | Herat               | 1           | -                            |
| Farah                     | 2                 | Farah               | 1           | -                            |
| (Nimruz)                  | -                 | (Naranj)            | -           | -                            |
| <b>Central Provinces</b>  |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Bamiyan                   | -                 | Bamiyan             | -           | -                            |
| Ghor                      | 2                 | Chaghcharan         | -           | -                            |
| Uruzgan                   | 1                 | Tarin Kot           | 1           | 4                            |
| Kabul and Adjacent        | -                 | -                   | -           | -                            |
| Kabul                     | 48                | Kabul               | 2           | 4                            |
| Parwan                    | 33                | Charikar            | -           | -                            |
| Kapisa                    | -                 | Mahmud-i-Raqi       | -           | -                            |
| Laghman                   | 6                 | Mehtarlam           | -           | 1                            |
| Logar                     | 37                | Pule Alam           | -           | -                            |
| Wardak                    | -                 | Koteasro            | -           | -                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>373</b>        |                     | <b>13</b>   | <b>50</b>                    |



**APPENDIX-2**  
**PROVINCE-WISE ENGAGEMENTS IN NOVEMBER 1989**  
**(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)**

| Provinces                 | Total Engagements | Provincial Capitals | Inside City | Engagements Vicinity of City |
|---------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Bordering Pakistan</b> |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Nimruz                    | 1                 | Narang              | 1           | -                            |
| Helmand                   | 4                 | Lashkargah          | -           | -                            |
| Qandahar                  | 48                | Qandahar            | 14          | 14                           |
| Zabul                     | 3                 | Kalat Gilzai        | 3           | -                            |
| Ghazni                    | 4                 | Ghazni              | -           | 1                            |
| Paktika                   | -                 | Sharna              | -           | -                            |
| Paktiya                   | 7                 | Gardez              | 3           | -                            |
| Ningarhar                 | 41                | Jalalabad           | -           | 3                            |
| Kunar                     | -                 | Chagha Sarai        | -           | -                            |
| Nooristan                 | -                 | Nooristan           | -           | -                            |
| <b>Bordering USSR</b>     |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Badakhshan                | 4                 | Faizabad            | 1           | -                            |
| Takhar                    | -                 | Taloqan             | -           | -                            |
| Kunduz                    | 8                 | Kunduz              | -           | 1                            |
| Baghlan                   | 49                | Baghlan             | -           | -                            |
| Samangan                  | 5                 | Samangan            | -           | -                            |
| Balkh                     | 11                | Mazar Sharif        | -           | 3                            |
| Jozjan                    | 1                 | Shebergan           | -           | -                            |
| Sar-e-pul                 | -                 | Sar-e-pul           | -           | -                            |
| Faryab                    | 4                 | Maimana             | -           | -                            |
| Badghis                   | 17                | Qala Nau            | -           | -                            |
| <b>Bordering Iran</b>     |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Herat                     | 29                | Herat               | 5           | 5                            |
| Farah                     | 1                 | Farah               | -           | -                            |
| (Nimruz)                  | -                 | (Zaranj)            | -           | -                            |
| <b>Central Provinces</b>  |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Bamiyan                   | -                 | Bamiyan             | -           | -                            |
| Ghor                      | -                 | Chaghcharan         | -           | -                            |
| Uruzgan                   | -                 | Tarin Kot           | -           | -                            |
| <b>Kabul and Adjacent</b> |                   |                     |             |                              |
| Kabul                     | 46                | Kabul               | 1           | 9                            |
| Parwan                    | 9                 | Charikar            | -           | 3                            |
| Kapisa                    | -                 | Mahmud-i-Raqi       | -           | -                            |
| Laghman                   | 1                 | Mehtarlam           | 1           | -                            |
| Logar                     | 9                 | Pule Alam           | -           | -                            |
| Wardak                    | -                 | Koteasro            | -           | -                            |
| <b>TOTAL</b>              | <b>302</b>        |                     | <b>30</b>   | <b>40</b>                    |

**APPENDIX-3**  
**PROVINCE-WISE ENGAGEMENTS IN DECEMBER 1989**  
**(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES)**

| Provinces Vicinity          | Total Engagements | Provincial Capitals | Engagements Inside city | of city   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Bordering Pakistan</b>   |                   |                     |                         |           |
| Nimruz                      | -                 | Zaranj              | -                       | -         |
| Helmand                     | 1                 | Lashkargah          | -                       | -         |
| Qandahar                    | 24                | Qandahar            | 5                       | 7         |
| Zabul                       | 7                 | Kalat Gilzai        | -                       | 5         |
| Ghazni                      | 14                | Ghazni              | 5                       | 8         |
| Paktika                     | -                 | Sharna              | -                       | -         |
| Paktiya                     | 6                 | Gardez              | -                       | -         |
| Ningarhar                   | 24                | Jalalabad           | 2                       | 6         |
| Kunar                       | -                 | Chagha Sarai        | -                       | -         |
| Nooristan                   | -                 | Nooristan           | -                       | -         |
| <b>Bordering USSR</b>       |                   |                     |                         |           |
| Badakhshan                  | 6                 | Faizabad            | -                       | -         |
| Takhar                      | 7                 | Taloqan             | -                       | -         |
| Kunduz                      | 4                 | Kunduz              | -                       | 2         |
| Baghlan                     | 27                | Baghlan             | 3                       | 3         |
| Samangan                    | 8                 | Samangan            | -                       | 2         |
| Balkh                       | 26                | Mazar-e-Sharif      | -                       | -2        |
| Jozjan                      | 1                 | Shebergan           | -                       | -         |
| Sar-i-Pul                   | -                 | Sar-i-Pul           | -                       | -         |
| Faryab                      | 7                 | Maimana             | -                       | 4         |
| Badghis                     | 3                 | Qala Nau            | -                       | -         |
| <b>Bordering Iran</b>       |                   |                     |                         |           |
| Iran                        | 27                | Herat               | 5                       | 1         |
| Farah                       | 5                 | Farah               | 2                       | -         |
| (Nimruz)                    | -                 | (Zaranj)            | -                       | -         |
| <b>Central Provinces</b>    |                   |                     |                         |           |
| Bamiyan                     | -                 | Bamiyan             | -                       | -         |
| Ghor                        | 4                 | Chaghchran          | -                       | 1         |
| Uruzgan                     | 1                 | Tarin Kot           | 1                       | -         |
| <b>Kabul &amp; Adjacent</b> |                   |                     |                         |           |
| Kabul                       | 20                | Kabul               | 2                       | 9         |
| Parwan                      | 21                | Charikar            | 1                       | 1         |
| Kapisa                      | -                 | Mahmud-i-Raqi       | -                       | -         |
| Laghman                     | 5                 | Mehtarlam           | -                       | -         |
| Logar                       | 5                 | Pul-e-Alam          | 1                       | -         |
| Wardak                      | 3                 | Koteasro            | 1                       | 1         |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>256</b>        |                     | <b>28</b>               | <b>53</b> |

**APPENDIX-4**  
**TOTAL MILITARY OPERATIONS**  
**COMPARATIVE DATA WITH LAST SIX MONTHS**  
**(DECEMBER, 1989)**

| Month<br>1989 | Mujahideen<br>Operations | Kabul<br>Operations | Total<br>Engagements |
|---------------|--------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| December      | 174                      | 82                  | 256                  |
| November      | 196                      | 106                 | 302                  |
| October       | 224                      | 149                 | 373                  |
| September     | 217                      | 82                  | 299                  |
| August        | 185                      | 77                  | 265                  |
| July          | 343                      | 183                 | 536                  |
| June          | 361                      | 185                 | 546                  |
| <b>TOTAL:</b> | <b>1691</b>              | <b>864</b>          | <b>2577</b>          |

\*Soviet troops were actively involved in such operations upto 15 February 1989

**APPENDIX - 5**  
**KABUL AIR LOSSES IN LAST SEVEN MONTHS**

| Month        | Helicopters | Aeroplanes | Total      |
|--------------|-------------|------------|------------|
| December     | 1989        | 8          | 13         |
| November     | 1989        | 3          | 10         |
| October      | 1989        | 2          | 14         |
| September    | 1989        | 4          | 13         |
| August       | 1989        | 9          | 11         |
| July         | 1989        | 17         | 14         |
| June         | 1989        | 26         | 26         |
| <b>Total</b> |             | <b>69</b>  | <b>108</b> |

**APPENDIX-6**  
**HUMAN LOSSES IN LAST SEVEN MONTHS**  
**(MUJAHIDEEN SOURCES**  
**DECEMBER, 1989)**

| Month         |      | Kabul<br>Troops<br>Killed | Mujahideen<br>Killed | Civilian<br>Killed | Total        |
|---------------|------|---------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| December      | 1989 | 697                       | 72                   | 127                | 896          |
| November      | 1989 | 663                       | 73                   | 162                | 898          |
| October       | 1989 | 927                       | 234                  | 188                | 1349         |
| September     | 1989 | 1065                      | 268                  | 220                | 1553         |
| August        | 1989 | 1061                      | 312                  | 57                 | 1430         |
| July          | 1989 | 1164                      | 276                  | 220                | 1660         |
| June          | 1989 | 1651                      | 271                  | 342                | 2264         |
| <b>Total:</b> |      | <b>7288</b>               | <b>1506</b>          | <b>1316</b>        | <b>10050</b> |

\*Please see reports prior to March 1989 for losses sustained to Soviet troops during their stay in Afghanistan upto 15 February 1989.

## **POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT**

**November, December and January  
1989 - 90**

### **CUELLAR PRESENTS ANNUAL REPORT TO UNGA ON AFGHANISTAN**

The UN Secretary General has submitted his annual report on Afghanistan to the General Assembly. Here are excerpts of the report :-

The report says that the United Nations supervised the withdrawal of the Soviet troops from Afghanistan last year and has also continued its efforts for the implementation of other clauses of the Geneva Accords on Afghanistan. The report says that a large number of complaints have been lodged with the UN offices in Pakistan and Afghanistan regarding a clause of the agreement which calls for non-interference in each other's internal affairs. The United Nations has investigated the matter. The Kabul regime has been complaining of political activities and hostile propaganda against the Afghan government being carried out from Pakistan soil such as firing on border areas, subversive activities and violations of the Afghan airspace by Pakistani Air Force. Besides, the Kabul regime complains that Pakistan imparts military training to the opponents of Kabul regime and Pakistani troops are involved in the Afghan war. Pakistan has been complaining about the political activities and hostile propaganda of the Kabul regime against it. It also complains that Afghan aircraft violate Pakistani airspace and carry out bombing on Pak villages and the Afghan troops fire rockets including Scud missiles on its border areas. The report says that detailed information regarding these complaints has not been given which could effectively be investigated.

The annual report of the UN Secretary General to the General Assembly says that one of the hopeful developments is

that both the sides have expressed readiness to cooperate with the United Nations and ten meetings have already taken place in this connection so far which have proved very fruitful. The report says that the United Nations has opened the offices of its observers in Peshawar and Quetta and now efforts are being made to get permission from Pakistani authorities for round the clock functioning of these offices. Pakistan's demand that such offices should also be opened in Afghanistan is under consideration. The report says that a clause of the Geneva Agreement calling for the return of Afghan refugees, has not been implemented and so very few refugees have returned to their country so far. On the contrary a large number of others have been forced to become refugees due to the continuation of war. The United Nations agencies also provide assistance in border areas to facilitate the return of the refugees. At present military officers of Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Fiji, Ghana, Ireland, Poland and Sweden are working in the UN offices in Kabul and Islamabad. The report says that it is necessary that the Pak-Afghan authorities should cooperate with the UN observers to make their job effective and they are doing so. Both the sides have cooperated for the security of the UNGOMAP. The report says that all the clauses of the Geneva Accords should be implemented. But so far no satisfactory progress has been made in this regard. That is why the UN Secretary General says, he asks all the concerned parties and guarantors of the Geneva Accords to help in connection with full implementation of the accords.

Regarding the humanitarian assistance to the Afghans, he praised the UN Coordinator, Sadruddin Aga Khan and said that a large number of countries have provided relief goods for the assistance of the Afghans instead of making donations in cash. A number of other countries who have pledged for assistance have urged that their assistance should be given to special groups or be spent on special programmes and this thing creates some problems for the United Nations. Some plans have been chalked out in the fields of agriculture, food assistance, professional education and reconstruction of the areas. In addition, mine

sweeping training to the Afghans has also been started. But the construction of roads, shelters and other important programmes have not yet been taken in hand for want of funds. Besides, those who have been displaced inside Afghanistan also need assistance. The report recalls that the United Nations has made efforts for a comprehensive settlement of the Afghan problem but no satisfactory progress has been achieved in this connection so far. The report says that it is natural that every concerned party takes step very carefully and tests the sincerity of the other after such a prolonged war. The UN Secretary General says that for seeking a political settlement of the Afghan issue, it is very necessary for other countries including the signatories and guarantors of the Geneva Agreements to extend international support and this is the only way if they want the Afghans to decide their fate themselves. Mr. Perez de Cuellar says that the Afghans should discuss this issue among themselves. He says that he has also made efforts in this connection and has told all the sides that there is no other way except political settlement of the Afghan problem and it should be recognised on national as well as international levels. His report further says : that the continuation of the Afghan war brings nothing except miseries to the people of Afghanistan. The Afghan war has left its impact on every Afghan family. One cannot close his eyes on the destruction of Afghanistan and killing and starvation of the Afghans during the past years. But despite this, there seems no sign of an end to the miseries of the people of Afghanistan. Now the Afghans should give preference to the lasting interests of their country rather than any thing else. They should work for the formation of a broad-based government. The report concludes though there are a number of difficulties and problems yet he hopes that a comprehensive political settlement could be sought. (VOA, Oct, 25, 1989)

#### **CUELLAR COMMENTS ON MUJAHIDEEN UNITY**

The UN Secretary General believes that the lack of unity

among the opposition parties is the major hurdle in the political settlement of Afghanistan problem.

Mr. Cuellar says, the seven-party coalition government in Peshawar, Field Commanders and refugees should adopt a joint stand which they could present during talks. Referring to his talks with the delegation of Afghan Mujahideen, the UN Secretary General said, whatever I said is that I want an organised Opposition which could represent the political forces opposed to the Kabul government during my efforts for the formation of a broad-based government. That is why I am talking to the Mujahideen who are here. I need to talk with the refugees and the Mujahid Commanders who are inside the country. You know that it is a long exercise.

UN officials believe that if the resistance movement wants to keep Najibullah government away from the future of Afghanistan, this decision could also be made only on the negotiation table. (VOA, 28 October).

#### **PETER TOMSEN SPEAKS ON AFGHAN PROBLEM**

In an interview to VOA, Mr. Peter Tomsen said that in his opinion there is only one way to resolve the Afghan issue i.e. Najibullah and his PDP quit power. In this connection, he drew attention towards the fact that the Soviet Union has an important role in this conflict. Mr. Peter Tomsen recalled that it was the Soviet Union which imposed Najibullah on Afghanistan and, as he put it, Najibullah is responsible for the massacre of one million people. He said that if peace is to come to Afghanistan, Dr. Najibullah must leave. He said that the Soviet Union has imposed Najibullah on Afghanistan therefore, it should remove him from there. Mr. Tomsen said that the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze in his policy statement has admitted that the Soviet Union by sending its troops to Afghanistan had committed a mistake. He said that now the Soviet Union should correct its mistake and this can be done only by removing Najibullah and giving the Afghan people the right to choose their government. To a question, Mr. Peter

Tomsen said, it is thought that Afghan issue cannot be resolved through war and it can only be settled politically. Mr. Peter Tomsen said, "our government's position is that we would prefer a political solution to the Afghan problem and not a military solution but how you would get a political solution unless Najibullah government quits power". He said that if Najibullah does not agree to step down, then scores of solutions of the problem would not be useful and war would continue because a great number of Afghans would not lay down their arms unless the present Afghan government steps down.

Mr. Peter Tomsen said, "our analysis is that war would continue as long as its causes exist i.e. Najibullah and his colleagues are in power in Afghanistan. Replying to a question about the Afghan Resistance Movement, Mr. Tomsen said that the United States supports it. He added that he held meetings with the leaders of the Interim government and assured them of the US support. Mr. Tomsen expressed the hope that contacts would increase among different elements and at least Shiite groups would join the Interim government. He also expressed the view that former King of Afghanistan, Zahir Shah has a role in the Afghan issue. He said if Zahir Shah extends his support to the Interim government, it would benefit the cause of the Resistance Movement. When asked to comment about the purpose of the visit of Afghan Interim government's delegation to the United States, Mr. Tomsen said that the delegation will meet UN officials in New York, and US officials and Congressmen in Washington. He said that the AIG delegation will be accorded a rousing welcome in the United States. To a question, Mr. Tomsen said the United States supports everybody who has contributed or is contributing to the Afghan jihad. The US does not criticize anyone. He said that the United States would continue to do so because it is a just struggle. (VOA, 27 October)

## **COMMONWEALTH SUMMIT URGED A BROAD-BASED GOVERNMENT**

At the Commonwealth Summit, about Afghanistan the Commonwealth leaders called for immediate negotiations among the concerned parties for the establishment of a broad-based government in Kabul. They said the government should represent all segments of the Afghan people.

Welcoming the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan in accordance with the Geneva Agreement, the leaders expressed the hope that the United Nations will play a prominent role in achieving a political settlement in that country (AIR, 24 October).

## **PDP's CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD**

In a bid to demonstrate unity, the ruling party in Afghanistan has held its Central Committee meeting for the first time after the Soviet troops' withdrawal from Afghanistan in February. A spokesman said that nineteen new members and an alternative member have been inducted in the Central Committee. Reports quote PDPA officials as having said that change in the Central Committee members is aimed at getting support for President Najibullah and putting an end to mutual disputes (VOA, 26 October).

## **KABUL ADMITS PRESENCE OF SOVIET ADVISORS**

The Afghan Government has acknowledged that Soviet advisors are still in Afghanistan providing technical advice on weapons. But the Afghans say that contrary to the American allegations the advisors are not involved in any military operations and their employment does not therefore, contravene the Geneva Accords which led to the departure of Soviet troops from Afghanistan. (BBC, 15 October).

## **NATIONAL SALVATION SOCIETY FORMED**

Reports from Afghanistan say that a national Salvation Society has been formed in Afghanistan with the membership of a number of eminent social and political personalities attached with the former regimes. This can be considered as an important step to speed up the peace process initiated in the country. In the past, the Afghan leadership has been inviting these West-based personalities, who are considered as third force in the Afghan conflict, to take part in the implementation of the policy of national reconciliation. (Radio Moscow, 15 October).

## **CONDEMNATION**

The Soviet Foreign Minister Mr. Shevardnadze has denounced his country's nine year involvement in Afghanistan saying it virtually violated all norms of Communist Party and general human values.

In a foreign policy statement for Parliament, Mr. Shervardnadze said the decision to send Soviet troops into Afghanistan had been taken behind the backs of the Party and the people. He said that he and the Soviet leader Mr. Gorbachev had only learnt about the decision to intervene in Afghanistan through Radio and newspaper reports (Radio Australia, 24 October).

## **MOSCOW SUPPORT NAJIB'S PEACE PLAN**

In Moscow, during their meeting the Afghan Foreign Minister Mr. Abdul Wakil and the Soviet first Deputy Foreign Minister, Mr. Yuli Vorontsov discussed the Afghan situation. On his way from Kabul to New York, Mr. Abdul Wakil had a brief stopover in Moscow. The Soviet side expressed its support to the detailed plan for the settlement which the Afghan President Mr. Najibullah put forth at NAM ninth summit in Belgrade (Radio Moscow, 5 October).

A spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry has expressed support to the proposal of the Afghan President, Najibullah, regarding stoppage of arms to both sides in the Afghan war. He was talking to TASS news agency regarding recent statement of the Pakistani Prime Minister, Benazir Bhutto in which she had said that the Soviet Union should withdraw a portion of its arms, supplied to Kabul government. She had said that this thing would help in solution of the Afghan conflict.

However, the spokesman of the Soviet Foreign Ministry said that the past several months have shown that the Afghan opposition is receiving huge quantity of arms. He said that the Soviet Union was of the view that war can only be ended if arms supply is symmetrically stopped to both the sides (Radio Moscow, 22 October).

## **BENAZIR BHUTTO MEET MOJADDEDI**

President Sebghatullah Mojaddedi and some other officials of the interim government of the Afghan Mujahideen based in Pakistan called on the Prime Minister Ms. Benazir Bhutto on October 24, 1989.

News agencies reports reveal matters relating to recent Afghan situation were discussed during the meeting. Both the sides stressed on the removal of Najibullah which they remarked was the only way for resolving the Afghan issue. They also reviewed matters pertaining to the formation of a broad based government in Afghanistan (Radio Teheran, 25 October).

## **RABBANI ON US INTERFERENCE**

Leader of the Jamiat-e-Islami, Burhanuddin Rabani while referring to foreign interference particularly from the US in the affairs of Afghanistan, said if, the US interfere in the affairs of Afghanistan we will fight the aggressors with the same weapons with which we fought the Soviet Union. (Radio Teheran, 2 October).

## **MUJAHIDEEN SEEK AFGHAN SEAT IN U.N.**

A delegation of the Afghan Interim Government has left Pakistan for New York to participate in the UN talks on Afghanistan. The delegation will stress that the Afghan seat in the United Nations should be given to it instead of Najibullah government. It will also make efforts to seek recognition at this international forum. It will be for the first time that the Afghan Mujahideen are participating in the UN talks after the formation of their interim government (BBC, 23 October).

## **AIG ESTABLISH POLICE ACADEMY**

The first academy to train police personnel of Afghan Mujahideen has started functioning at Peshawar, Pakistan.

Quoting an official of the Interior Ministry of the Interim Government of Afghan Mujahideen, a report reaching from Islamabad says that the academy is set up to train policemen for creating discipline in the liberated areas of Afghanistan.

According to the report about 200-Mujahids are under training in the academy under the supervision of experts. (VIRA, 26 October).

## **MEDIATION OFFERS**

Afghan President Najibullah had said that his government is prepared to accept mediation from any Islamic country to settle the Afghan issue. He said he is ready to accept any Muslim country as a host where talks can be held with the opposition.

President Najibullah stated that in his message to the Islamic Conference which began in Kabul on October 12, 1989. (AIR, 13 October).

The Swiss Foreign Minister has told the United Nations Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar that Switzerland is ready to play a more active role in helping to solve international

conflicts especially in Afghanistan. The Foreign Minister made the offer during a meeting with Mr. Perez de Cuellar at UN Headquarters in New York (Radio Switzerland, 13 October).

The head of the Communist government in Kabul and Afghan President Najibullah has begun efforts to strengthen his government by utilizing the decades old traditional relations between West German and Afghan people. The head of Kabul government on the one hand wants Bonn Government to establish contacts with the warring parties of Afghanistan and on the other to undertake mediatory efforts between Kabul government and the Western world. Najibullah presented this concept of mediation by Bonn in an interview to the West German news Agency, DPA in Kabul yesterday. (VOG, 4 October).

## **NAJIB EXTENDS EMERGENCY IN AFGHANISTAN**

President Najibullah in a Presidential decree has extended state of emergency in the country for a period of another six months (Radio Kabul, 21 November).

## **KABUL IS READY TO HOLD ELECTIONS**

Kabul government is ready to hold elections in Afghanistan under the direct supervision of the United Nations. For this purpose it is waiting for a response from the Opposition. This was stated by Dr. Najibullah in an interview with an Iranian daily the RISALA. The main reason of the continuation of bloodshed in Afghanistan is due to what Dr. Najibullah put it, the influence on the Mujahideen of some countries in which the United States is in the forefront (Radio Moscow, 21 November).

## **NAJIB CONDEMN SOVIET INTERVENTION**

The Afghan President Najibullah has said that he was opposed to the Soviet military intervention in his country ten years back. He said that the reason was the tug of war inside

PDPA to grab power. Gordon Adam of the BBC writes why it is so? Criticising the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan in December 1979 after such a long time, President Najibullah has concealed the fact as to how much benefits he himself has directly gained from the intervention because he was nominated as a chief of the KHAD with the consent of Moscow in 1980. This was the last statement in a series of statements issued by the Afghan leadership showing his Islamic and national belief to isolate himself from Moscow.

Najibullah's attitude was soft towards newspapers and political agitations during the last few months but the people still hate Najibullah's regime.

One cannot say anything about the future of that country. It is possible that the people of Kabul may also come to the streets as that in Eastern Europe. (BBC, 30 November)

#### **SHEVARDNADZE MEET KING ZAHIR SHAH**

In Rome, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Eduard Shevardnadze has held a meeting with exiled former Afghan monarch, Zahir Shah. The meeting reviewed the possibilities of peace in Afghanistan.

A spokesman of former King Zahir Shah said, it was like the meetings which he had with Soviet, Pakistan and Saudi government representatives on several occasions in the past. His meeting with the Soviet Foreign Minister was held on the request of the Soviet Union. It was the first meeting between Zahir Shah and any high Soviet official (BBC, 30 November)

#### **CHINA DEMANDS CHANGE IN KABUL**

The Chinese Premier Li Peng has begun his three day visit to Pakistan by meeting with Pakistani head of government Benazir Bhutto. According to Pakistani television both sides agreed to increase economic cooperation. At the same time both Mr. Li and Ms. Bhutto demanded a change of government in Afghanistan. According to Pakistani sources China has said it

will continue to support the Afghan rebels until the Soviet Union stops supply of weapons to the Government in Kabul. (VOG, 15 November)

#### **CHINA STOP MILITARY SUPPLIES TO THE MUJAHIDEEN**

According to Associated Press, China has stopped arms supplies to the Afghan opposition and it is gradually normalising relations with the government in Kabul. Associated Press believes that the withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan is one of the main reasons behind Beijing's policy. The Associated Press says that China stopped arms supplies last summer. What had been planned, was brought but there were no new promises. But, American arms supplies to the Mujahideen have not stopped on the contrary. They have assumed a new quantity. The Far Eastern Economic Review, says that for the first time, the CIA directly controls the distribution of arms among the Mujahideen (Radio Moscow, 22 November).

#### **SOVIETS WANT NAJIB IN POWER**

The Soviet Union has told the United States that any political solution to the Afghan civil war must leave the Soviet backed government of President Najibullah in power. Moscow has reasserted its policy in a letter to US Secretary of State James Baker. On November 1, the UN General Assembly approved a joint Soviet-Pakistani resolution that calls for negotiations to establish an Islamic coalition government. Afghan rebels have rejected the resolution saying Mr. Najibullah first must be removed (VOA, 3 November).

#### **SAUDI AND U.S. AID FOR THE MUJAHIDEEN**

According to a press report, an agreement has been reached between the United States and Saudi Arabia to raise seventy



one and half crore dollars in the CIA fund for the Afghan resistance movement. The LOS ANGELES TIMES in its Sunday's issue reported that the amount will be spent to purchase military hardware and other supplies for the Afghan resistance movement during the next three months. The daily says that the assistance is aimed at countering the Soviet aid for Afghan government worth twenty five crore dollars per month. The Bush administration has approved twenty eight crore dollars for Afghan rebels till February. The paper writes that Saudi Arabia will provide the remaining amount (VOA 20 November)

### **AIG ANNOUNC ELECTIONS**

The Chief Justice of the Afghan Mujahideen Interim Government says the elections for a five hundred member transitional Afghan assembly will be held before next April, Mr. Ahmed Gilani told a news conference in Islamabad that elections will be held in the Mujahideen controlled areas of Afghanistan and the Afghan refugee camps in Pakistan and Iran. He said the elected Assembly will have the power to modify the Mujahideen Interim Government whose term expires next April (VOA, 22 November).

### **HIKMATYAR ASK U.S AND U.S.S.R. TO SIGN A NEGATIVE SYMMETRY**

The leader of Hizbe Islami, Gulbadin Hikmatyar has asked Soviet Union and America to stop arms supply to both parties of the war in Afghanistan and abandon all type of interference in that country. Addressing a press conference in Islamabad, Gulbadin Hikmatyar said that if Soviet Union once stops arming Najib government, we are prepared to provide guarantee for stopping arms supply to the other side as well. He said Afghans have the right to decide their future themselves. He said that a new government in place of Soviet installed government can be formed in two ways. Firstly, elected government of Mujahideen

may hold elections to the legislative assembly after assuming power in Kabul and secondly two non-Communist officers of the Afghan Army together with Mujahideen Commanders fighting in the suburbs of Kabul should topple the government and set up a Revolutionary Council and pledge to hold elections within six months. He said, talks are still continuing with other Mujahideen leaders to reach an understanding on the question of holding elections. If the interim government holds the elections within its tenure of office, Hizbe Islami will rejoin the Cabinet.

Mr. Hikmatyar emphasised that the new elections of parliament should be held on the basis of proportionate representation. It means that votes would be given to parties and not to persons and then every party will be given seats according to the proportion of number of votes it wins. He said if the elections are held on the principle of proportionate representation, parties and groups securing minimum number of votes will also get legal representation and this unity of the Afghan nation will be secured (VOA, 18 November).

### **NO POWER SHARING WITH NAJIB: SAYYAF**

The Prime Minister of the interim Government of the Afghan Mujahideen, Prof. Abdur Rab Rasul Sayyaf has again announced that there would be no kind of sharing of power with the PDPA of Dr. Najibullah in the future government. He was expressing his views after the passage of a resolution on Afghanistan in the United Nations. He said that the resolution implied that there should be negotiations between the PDPA and the Mujahideen. Prof. Sayyaf said that if this was meant by the resolution, then the Mujahideen would not be able to support that (BBC, 3 November).

### **MUJADDADI MEET US PRESIDENT**

The US President Mr. Bush has held a meeting with the President of the Afghan Interim government in Washington. A

White House spokesman says President Bush has expressed the hope for a political settlement between the Afghan resistance and Kabul government. The spokesman said that President Bush once again expressed his support to the Afghan guerillas but asked them to work for the formation of a broad-based government (BBC, 28 November).

### **NO CHANGE IN PAKISTAN'S AFGHAN POLICY: MUJADDADI**

Vice of America interviewed the AIG President. Following is some excerpts of the answers:

"So far we have not felt any difference in the policies of the new government of Pakistan. If a change is going to take place, we hope that it would be in our favour".

When I met Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, she promised to provide us hundred per cent support. The new government in Pakistan also promised to support our government and policies. During the meeting, the Pakistan Prime Minister said if there would be any change in Pakistan's policy, it would be in the interest of the Afghan Mujahideen.

"As far as a political solution is concerned it can only be achieved if we are strong in the military field".

If direct talks are held between us and the Soviet Union, we would tell them that the present puppet government in Kabul is not acceptable to the Afghan people. It is the root-cause of all the destruction in our country. It would be good for the Soviets to stop providing assistance to Kabul regime and recognise the right to self-determination of the Afghans.

The people who were involved in the World War II are still being held accountable and put on trials in Europe. So, in this background, it is Mujahideen's kindness that they have announced general amnesty for the Communists who are the source of discord.

The differences among the Mujahideen groups are not so serious that may cause concern. These are very minor differences. Clashes too take place between rivals occasionally.

But, these are very small. They do not affect our Jihad (VOA, 28 November).

### **AIG DELEGATION VISIT WASHINGTON**

A Mujahideen delegation has arrived in Washington from the United Nations headquarters in a bid to get more military assistance from the United States. The head of the delegation, Mr. Farooq Azam has complained that the US military assistance to the Mujahideen has already been reduced during the past few months. During the meeting this week, the US State Department is likely to seek details about the elections which, according to the Mujahideen, will be held on 15 February next year (BBC, 31 October).

### **TWO SOVIET POWs RELEASED**

Two Soviet POWs who remained three years in the Afghan Mujahideen's imprisonment have been released. The Chief Justice of the Afghan Mujahideen Interim government, Pir Syed Ahmad Gilani handed over Anderelopkov and Valariprop Kohev (ph) to the Soviet Ambassador in Pakistan.

Earlier, no Soviet Ambassador ever visited the headquarters of the Afghan Mujahideen interim government in Peshawar (VOA, 27 November).

### **AFGHAN MINISTER DEFECTED**

The French government has decided to give political asylum to the Afghan Deputy Minister for Education, Mr. Hameed Mubarak who has defected the Kabul regime. Mr. Mubarak was the Chairman of the Bakhtar News Agency of Afghanistan before assuming the charge of his Ministry. Mr. Hameed Mubarak had arrived in Paris two weeks ago to represent the Kabul regime at the annual meeting of the UNESCO. He told BBC that it was very difficult for him to leave

his country but now the situation there has reached such a stage that it was impossible for him to tolerate it any longer. Mr. Mubarak said the Afghan ruling party is interfering in public life to an intolerable extent. He said the Najib government is confined to Kabul only and is surviving with the help of heavy Soviet assistance. He is the first senior civilian Afghan official who defected Afghanistan during the last one year.

Mr. Mubarak was an independent member in the Afghan government having no political affiliation with any party. He said the PDPA would also meet the same fate like that of other Communist Parties in Eastern Europe shortly. (BBC, 15 November).

### **HUMAN RIGHT SITUATION IN AFGHANISTAN**

A United Nations report, just out, says there is a cause of deep concern over human rights in Afghanistan several months after the withdrawal of Soviet troops.

Mr. Armacora who recently visited the country on behalf of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, says in his report that more than three thousand political prisoners are awaiting trial. Prisoners have been held in deplorable conditions.

The report also criticises the conduct of trials by special security force. (BBC, 17 November).

### **AFGHAN ISSUE DISCUSSED AT MALTA**

According to American sources, President Gorbachev is of the view that the solution of Afghanistan problem is the most difficult among the settlement of regional issues. Mr. Gorbachev is said to have briefly exchanged these views with President Bush in Malta last week. Quoting US sources, the Editor of BBC Pushto Service, Gordan Adam says that though the two leaders had not discussed Afghanistan problem for more than ten minutes during Malta summit but the mode of talks was cooperative instead of hostile. The talks are said to had

been focused on the future of Dr. Najibullah and alternatives for the future interim leadership in that country. These sources add that the Foreign Ministers of both the countries were also present during these talks. In this meeting, the Soviet Foreign Minister, Mr. Shevardnadze said that he had visited Kabul seven times and every time he saw that the government of Dr. Najibullah was stronger than ever. In this conditions Shervardnadze said how they can remove Dr. Najib from power (BBC, 9 December).

### **STEPHEN SOLARZ MEET AFGHAN RESISTANCE LEADERS**

The Chairman of the US House of Representatives Subcommittee on Asia and Pacific, Stephen Solarz, had a meeting with Pakistan-based Afghan guerilla leaders and exchanged views with them on the formation of a new government in Kabul. Mr. Stephen Solarz is currently visiting Pakistan. Role of former King Zahir Shah in the new Afghan government is also included in the agenda of Mr. Solarz's talks with the Mujahideen leaders. Diplomatic sources in Islamabad say that Mr. Stephen Solarz's talks with the Mujahideen leaders reveal that the United States is attaching more importance to the political settlement of Afghan issue (Radio Beijing, 19 December).

### **WAKIL VISIT MOSCOW**

On December 14, the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze met his visiting Afghan counterpart Abdul Wakil in Moscow. Both sides discussed the foreign political aspect of an Afghan settlement. Abdul Wakil said specifically that after the Soviet troops had left Afghanistan, his country's Government managed not only to keep up but also to reinforce its position and proceeded to expand dialogue with opposition forces both in and outside Afghanistan. Eduard Shevardnadze told Abdul Wakil that the Afghan problem had been discussed

during the recent Soviet-American Summit in Malta and with the former Afghan King Zahir Shah in Rome (Radio Moscow, 15 December).

### **MUJADDADI ASSURED OF US SUPPORT**

The President of the interim government of the Afghan resistance, Sibghatullah Mujaddadi says that the United States has promised continued support to the Mujahideen. He was talking to newsmen at Peshawar airport on his return from the United States. He said that his talks with President Bush and other US officials were successful (VOA, 15 December).

### **IRAN REITERATE AFGHAN POLICY**

An official of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, while laying stress on the need of Afghan Mujahideen's active participation in resolving Afghanistan crisis, reiterated yesterday Iranian government's proposal for convening a conference on Afghan issue with the participation of Iran, Pakistan, the Soviet Union and Afghan Mujahideen. According to an Islamic Republic News Agency report, the Iranian official said that Iran will boycott every type of conference and talks without the participation of Mujahideen representative (Radio Teheran, 26 December).

### **IRANIANS CONCERNED OVER REFUGEES ACTIVITIES**

Iran says that it is planning to seal its border with Pakistan to prevent entry of the Afghan refugees into Iran from across the border. The Iranian Home Minister, Mr. Abdullah Noori has said that the two governments had decided last month to tighten security on their common borders. He accused that some Afghan are involved in drug smuggling and corruption (VOA, 15 December).

In a meeting with the Iran-based nine party alliance of Afghan Mujahideen in Teheran on December 12, 1989, the

Iranian Interior Minister, Mr. Noori reiterated that while extending all out support to the struggle of the oppressed Afghan nation, the Iranian Government will sternly deal with the evil deeds criminal offences and subversive activities being committed by the Afghans in Iran.

Mr. Noori pointed out that the Iranian Government is fully committed to respect and honour the Afghan people and said the Iranian Government is exerting endeavours for the solution of the difficulties of the Afghan people.

He said despite tremendous difficulties during the war, the Iranian government has not spared any effort in providing necessary relief to the Afghan brothers and sisters.

In response, the members of the Iran-based nine party alliance of Afghan Mujahideen expressed profound gratitude and highly appreciated the services rendered by the Iranian Government to the Afghan cause (Radio Teheran, 12 December).

### **NAJIB CONDEMNS SOVIET INTERVENTION IN AFGHANISTAN**

Afghan leader, President Najibullah has said, he agrees with the Soviet view that intervention in Afghanistan was a mistake. However, giving an interview to BBC he also said that Soviet forces had provided him a valuable assistance. Continuing President Najibullah disclosed that recent events in Eastern Europe and objective realities of Afghan society have inspired the party to bring large scale and basic changes in its structure which would soon be announced. He was addressing on the occasion of 10th anniversary of Soviet invasion of Afghanistan. Meanwhile, in Pakistan Afghan Mujahideen and refugees took out processions in which they declared to continue their efforts till the elimination of Najib Government. Soviet support for Najib government was also strongly criticised (BBC, 27 December).

## **TOMSEN WARNS MUJAHIDEEN**

In a recent interview, Mr. Tomsen said if the Mujahideen met with any failure in the future, it will not be due to decrease in American assistance rather due to the differences within their own ranks and disunity (VOA, 26 December).

## **HIKMATYAR AND RABBANI SIGNED AGREEMENT**

An important agreement between Hizb-i-Islami and Jamiat-i-Islami (two Afghan Mujahideen organizations) has been signed under which differences between them will come to an end. The agreement reached in Peshawar is considered as first important step towards normalising relations between the two groups although the deep rooted mistrust between their commanders in some areas of Afghanistan would hardly be eliminated soon with this agreement.

Their leaders, Burhanuddin Rabbani and Gulbadin Hikmatyar have announced that they would not attack each other's convoys and would not seize their funds and arms. The agreement said that they would not launch propaganda against each other and would exchange their prisoners. The major role in this formal compromise was that of Dr. Abdullah Al Ezzam who was killed in a bomb explosion in Peshawar last week (BBC, 1 December).

## **A COUP ATTEMPT FOILED BY KABUL REGIME**

About three hundred, servicemen and civilians were involved in the anti-government plot uncovered in Afghanistan recently. The details were disclosed by a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Kabul on Saturday. The plotters were in contact with a group of the extremist Opposition leader Hikmatyar (Radio Moscow, 10 December).

## **CARRYING ARMS IN CITIES PROHIBITED**

In a statement the Supreme Command of Armed Forces of Afghanistan said, "it has been observed that officials of the Civilian Armed Forces including the personnel of the national and regional forces are not maintaining proper discipline". They are creating troubles for the citizens. For the observance of effective order and discipline, the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces has issued a special decree. In the decree, the Garrison Commanders of the cities and towns have been directed to check all sorts of law breaking activities.

Without the ticket of the Services personnel of the national and regional forces, every armed movement inside the cities is prohibited completely.

The officials of the national and regional forces, before entering the cities should deposit their arms, at entry posts.

Search of the houses should be carried out with the permission of the courts under the provisions of the laws in the presence of the representatives of the Garrison Scouts and National Security, (Radio Kabul, 8 December).

## **NEW APPOINTMENTS**

President Najibullah in a decree has appointed Lt. General Mohammad Nabi Azeemi son of Ghulam Haider as Commander of Kabul Garrison. Lt. General Mohammad Nabi Azeemi will also retain the post of First Deputy Defence Minister, the decree added (RadioKabul, 10 December).

## **2 - ISSUES OF RECONSTRUCTION, REPATRIATION AND REHABILITATION IN AFGHANISTAN**

The United Nations High Commision for Refugees is desperately short of cash. The major donar nations have imposed strict spending limits for next year and say the agency must cut its budget deficit to forty million dollars from fifty

million by the end of the year or even tougher quotas will be set. The head of the UN agency has warned that there could be sudden disruptions in its operations if new funds are not available within the next few days.

The origin of the current financial crisis lie in the increase in demands of the agency. It is now looking after some fourteen million refugees world-wide.

Three million refugees that UNHCR is assisting in Pakistan, the Afghan refugees, supplies of kerosene for example have been suspended. (BBC, 15 October).

### **UN RELIEF SUPPLIES**

The first train carrying UN relief supplies to Afghanistan has set out on its journey from Finland via Soviet Union. This assistance is a part of a campaign called SALAM and it consists wheat, partial pre-fabricated houses and medicines. A spokesman of this campaign said though the Soviet Union has already provided humanitarian assistance through the United Nations yet it is for the first time the Soviet Union has allowed the assistance from its soil. The train is expected to reach the Soviet border in two weeks. The spokesman has further said that Moscow has pledged that it will bear transportation charges of the assistance in future (BBC, 8 October).

### **U.S. EXPERTS HELP IN EDUCATION**

The American Educational experts alongwith the Afghan people are making joint efforts for the reconstruction of schools destroyed during the ten year old war in Afghanistan. In his despatch, VOA correspondent, Paul Francuch has reported from Omaha that in this programme the stress is being made on self-help. Further details reveals that: different factions of the Afghan refugees and those of the Mujahideen started the programme in 1985 alongwith the experts of the University of Nebraska and the Teachers College of the Columbia University.

American educational experts extended their help in determining the requirements of the war stricken country in the field of education.

Educational experts of the University of Nebraska say that due to the success of the programme of the Afghan schools working with the US assistance, now the organisers can take a step towards the next phase. Text books and educational equipment have been provided for the next three grades of the schools. The programme is expected to prove helpful in the reconstruction of schools which will give education on Secondary level.. (VOA, 15 October).

### **MUJAHIDEEN CAPTURED UN SUPPLIES**

Afghan Mujahideen have captured two trucks of the United Nations, loaded with relief goods in East of Afghanistan. The report has been given by Mujahideen's news agency MIDIA. (VOG, 8 October).

### **UN SPONSORED PROJECTS IN AFGHANISTAN**

The United Nations Coordinator on Aid to Afghanistan, Prince Sadaruddin Agha Khan, has said that one hundred projects are being implemented in Afghanistan under assistance on humanitarian ground.

Prince Sadaruddin Agha Khan, in an interview with the VOA said that attention is being paid to projects relating to food, education and health, under the present programme of assistance to Afghanistan. These projects are being implemented in collaboration with volunteer organisations. He stated that assistance programme on humanitarian basis is underway in many areas of Afghanistan including the areas of Kunar, Paktika, Paktia, Zabul and Ghazni. According to Prince Sadaruddin, Salam mobile units have been increased in Afghanistan. The United Nations is playing a meaningful role in providing assistance to the Afghan people and reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Although about one billion dollars have been pledged in the shape of assistance yet only a small portion of the same has been received so far. Basically we need cash aid, he added.

The United Nations Coordinator of Assistance to Afghanistan while replying to a question about the possible return of refugees, said that the refugees will have to take a decision themselves voluntarily in this connection. Prince Sadaruddin concluded by saying that rehabilitation work is continuing in some areas of Afghanistan where situation is returning to normal gradually and where fighting is not taking place. This task is being carried out in a balanced way with the cooperation of all Afghans (VOA, 23 November).

### **KABUL RECEIVES FRESH SUPPLIES**

A big column of vehicles, loaded with consumer goods arrived in Kabul from the Soviet Union. This column consisted of one thousand and twenty vehicles, loaded with flour, sugar and fuel. The latest column of one thousand and twenty vehicles safely crossed Kabul-Hairatan road and reached Kabul yesterday.

The economic siege of Kabul has been broken, the column of vehicles has arrived in Kabul and the Afghan government has once again proved its capability (Radio Moscow, 21 November).

### **NUMBER OF REFUGEES INCREASED IN PAKISTAN**

In Pakistan, the Afghan refugee problem is assuming a critical shape. Observers say that the number of the Afghan refugees has increased following the Soviet troops withdrawal from Afghanistan.

The number of these refugees only in Pakistan has gone up to nearly 4.5 million due to the arrival of new refugees and the birth of 7 lakh babies in refugee camps during last eight year and the four lakh unregistered refugees who are mostly settled in the Frontier province. At least 300 million dollars are being spent every year on the look after of these refugees. This

amount is being provided by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, government of Pakistan and numerous relief agencies. But people particularly in the West have turned their attention from the Afghanistan problem after the Soviet troops withdrawal from that country. This trend has resultantly decreased donations. Besides, the UNHCR has also made a 20 per cent cut in the current year budget for the Afghan refugees which has not only posed a great financial threat to Pakistan but also to the welfare programmes for the Afghan refugees (VPG, 29 November).

### **PROTOCOL SIGNED**

A protocol on the modernisation of Kabul airport was signed between Afghanistan and the Soviet Union in Kabul on November 24.

The protocol was signed on behalf of the Afghan government by the Civil Aviation Minister, Sher Mazdouryar and on the Soviet side by the Assistant Commerce Attache in the Soviet Embassy (Radio Kabul, 24 November).

### **CHINESE AID FOR THE REFUGEES**

After official talks on Wednesday, Pakistani and Chinese representatives signed four documents. The fourth document relates to the supply of blankets, shoes and packed foodstuff for Afghan refugees from China. The value of these goods will be nearly one lakh thirty thousand dollars. (VOA, 15 November).

### **AGHA KHAN VISIT IRAN**

The UN Coordinator on Afghanistan Prince Sadaruddin Agha Khan arrived in Teheran on December 8, 1989. During his stay in Teheran, Mr. Sadaruddin Agha Khan would prepare a report about the condition of the Afghan refugees in Iran. He would also meet with the Iranian Foreign Minister, Dr. Ali Akbar Valayati and Interior Minister, Mr. Noori (Radio

Teheran, 8 December).

## **DONATIONS FOR REFUGEES**

The British Secretary for Overseas Development, Mrs. Lynda Chalker who is currently on a visit to Pakistan has announced an emergency assistance worth 1.3 million pounds for the Afghan refugees living in Pakistan. She made this announcement on her arrival in Islamabad after visiting camps of the Afghan refugees in Peshawar. Since 1980 Britain has provided assistance worth 70 million pounds to the Afghan refugees.

Meanwhile, the authorities of the British Government in London have announced a grant of two hundred thousand pounds for a project of the United Nations under which new equipment is to be purchased for a children hospital in Kabul (BBC, 10 December).

## **EXISTING FOOD STOCKS FOR KABUL SUFFICIENT**

The Bakhtar news agency has reported that essential commodities including wheat, flour, edible oil, sugar and soap have been supplied to the people of Kabul. The winter season is hampering supply of essential commodities to Kabul. In spite of the armed opposition group's efforts to block these supplies, essential commodities are being supplied to the city. Officials say that the existing food stock is sufficient for this winter season (Radio Moscow, 6 December).

## **TRAIN WITH RELIEF GOODS FOR AFGHANS LEAVE ROME**

According to reports, a train loaded with UN foodstuff and other commodities has left Rome for northern Afghan port. These commodities have been provided from existing UN stocks and partly by the Vatican, Italy, Norway, the Soviet Union and a relief agency. The commodities would be distributed among the

people both in the Mujahideen and government controlled areas inside Afghanistan.

The United Nations press release says that the train is carrying blankets, clothes, over two thousand tons of wheat, ambulances and other commodities. The train has left Rome for Afghanistan via Soviet Union where more UN assistance would be boarded and these commodities would be distributed among the people in the resistance forces and government controlled areas inside Afghanistan before the snowfall. This is the second train of relief goods from Europe. The first train was named "Peace Express" and had created bitterness. The relief goods had been sent to Afghanistan on board this train from Finland in October. The resistance leaders had claimed that the assistance would be provided to the government controlled areas particularly Kabul but these claims had been rejected by the UN officials. They had stressed that the first train which had moved to a government controlled area in the north would distribute almost fourteen hundred tons of wheat in the areas where needy people were living. And the areas under the control of the resistance forces in northern Afghanistan would be benefitted from these assistance. Similarly, some relief agencies have complained that the United Nations had not taken immediate steps in some northern Afghan areas where food grains were harmed by the locust which had created famine like situation there. The UN officials who work with the UN Special Coordinator for Afghanistan say that distribution of commodities have been started in some provinces and technical teams are engaged in paving the ground in other areas. Negotiations are going on with some resistance groups so that ground could be paved for the supply of relief assistance to the areas under their control in northern Afghanistan, (BBC, December 13, 1989).



## **MUJAHIDEEN COMMANDER APPEAL FOR FOOD SUPPLIES IN THE NORTH**

A commander of the Afghan guerillas has appealed for immediate assistance to the four provinces in north-eastern Afghanistan facing famine and severe cold. In an appeal reported by the Afghan News Service, a news agency of the Afghan guerillas, Commander Aryan Pur (ph) who belongs to Jamiat-e-Islami said 'children are dying of hunger and cold.' He said that in Badakhshan province the situation is deteriorating day by day. Mr. Aryan Pur added that people were also facing hunger in Baghlan, Takhar and Kunduz provinces (BBC, 30 December).



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